



Modernizing Entity Identification

The GBI initiative was formed from the challenges associated with the Manufacturer/Shipper Identification Number (MID) and its lack of data quality, data richness, and uniqueness. The GBI single identifier solution will modernize the import process by providing the U.S. government with accurate supply chain insights.

Why is it important to modernize trade entity identification?

In 2021...



CBP processed over **28.5 million cargo containers** at **328 U.S. ports of entry**



There were over **365,000 Importers of Record** and **16,500 Customs Brokers** in CBP systems



CBP processed **32.8 million import entries**

GBI Evaluative Proof of Concept

The Border Interagency Executive Council (BIEC) has developed an Evaluative Proof of Concept (EPoC) that **will test three entity identifiers** (GBI proposed solution) and **determine the optimal combination** that uniquely identifies: main legal entity and ownership; specific business and global locations; and supply chain roles and functions. The GBI EPoC was approved in December 2022 and will operate within the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE).

GBI Proposed Solution

Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS)



9-digit numeric and non-indicative identifier that identifies unique business establishments with library of over 200 reference data elements. Over 300 million DUNS issued worldwide.

Global Location Number (GLN)



13-digit numeric identifier with varying sets of underlying reference data elements customizable to location, function, and operations. Over 2 million companies utilize GS1 Standards, and 100 million products carry GS1 barcodes.

Legal Entity Identifier (LEI)



20-digit, alphanumeric identifier with underlying reference data elements unique to a legal entity. Over 2.2 million LEIs issued worldwide.

How Can Industry Participate in the GBI EPoC?

Federal Register Notice

Respond to a Federal Register Notice (FRN) that was published on December 2, 2022.

Obtain the Identifiers

Obtain one or more identifiers (DUNS, GLN, LEI).

Cargo Release / Entry Submission Process

Through a customs broker or as a self-filer, submit one or more identifiers for supply chain roles at Cargo Release / Entry via the CBP Automated Broker Interface application.

Companies of all sizes are encouraged to participate and will be given **ample time to respond to the FRN** and **obtain one or more identifiers** prior to participating in the GBI EPoC.

Please submit questions related to volunteering for the GBI EPoC or filing to GBI@cbp.dhs.gov. Questions related to obtaining an identifier should be submitted to the identifier companies.

Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee

In 2019, the Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee (COAC) One-U.S. Government (1USG) Working Group participated in a GBI Workshop and developed a set of seventeen recommendations. The interagency has implemented seven of these recommendations and continues to engage with the COAC regarding GBI EPoC design and implementation.

GBI Benefits to Industry

- ✓ Improves data quality for CBP to conduct more precise targeting and risk assessment
- ✓ Provides participants with the opportunity to give feedback on the design and scope
- ✓ Utilize international standards to establish digital identifiers for the trade community
- ✓ Gives CBP greater visibility into increasing complex supply chains to facilitate legitimate trade
- ✓ Allows the trade community to manage and update information captured by their global entity identifiers