Guide to the GDST Materials
Packet Contents | How to Use These Documents

The GDST materials consist of four separate documents (plus this Guide) and an Excel spreadsheet, all being released together as a set, as follows:

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<td>March 2022</td>
<td>v1.1</td>
<td>Overview of GDST packet contents + “How to use these documents”</td>
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<td>Executive Summary</td>
<td>March 2022</td>
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<td>Basic Universal List of KDEs (spreadsheet)</td>
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Apart from the KDE spreadsheet, the materials are being distributed in PDF format. While suitable for printing, they have been prepared for on-screen viewing, with internal hyperlinks to assist document navigation. All are available at traceability-dialogue.org/gdst-standards-and-materials/

The materials are presented in separate documents for two reasons: (i) to distinguish clearly between the GDST Core Normative Standards document (drafted through the GDST dialogue process) and the explanatory/supportive materials (drafted by the GDST Secretariat, in consultation with GDST members and external experts); and (ii) because the documents address both technical and non-technical audiences, as follows:

- The **Core Normative Standards** begin with a narrative section suitable and important for all readers; most of this document, however, is highly technical.

- The **Executive Summary** and **Explanatory Materials** offer a non-technical presentation of the GDST Standards, their context, and some of the underlying questions confronted. The **Explanatory Materials** document is long—good use of its table of contents for selective reading is advised!

- The **Technical Implementation Guidance** is for technically expert readers familiar with EPCIS. Like the **Explanatory Materials**, it contains references and links both to additional educational materials and to the GDST GitHub for continuous, community-based learning and tool development for implementation of the GDST standards.

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