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CHIP (Chain Integration Project) Overview

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*If applicable



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EPC/RFID Retail Supply Chain Data Exchange Study (Project Zipper)

Auburn University's RFID Lab examined the benefits of item level product tagging, tracking, and sharing data from source to fulfillment



Data reconciliation issues, manual processes, mispicks—all of these challenges slow down the supply chain and can be improved, even eliminated, with the use of item level RFID. Our customers are demanding excellence and RFID will help us truly evolve to meet the needs of the omni-consumer.”

Chris Clark CIO, Levi's



RFID tags



RFID Scanning Equipment



claims for shipments for DC

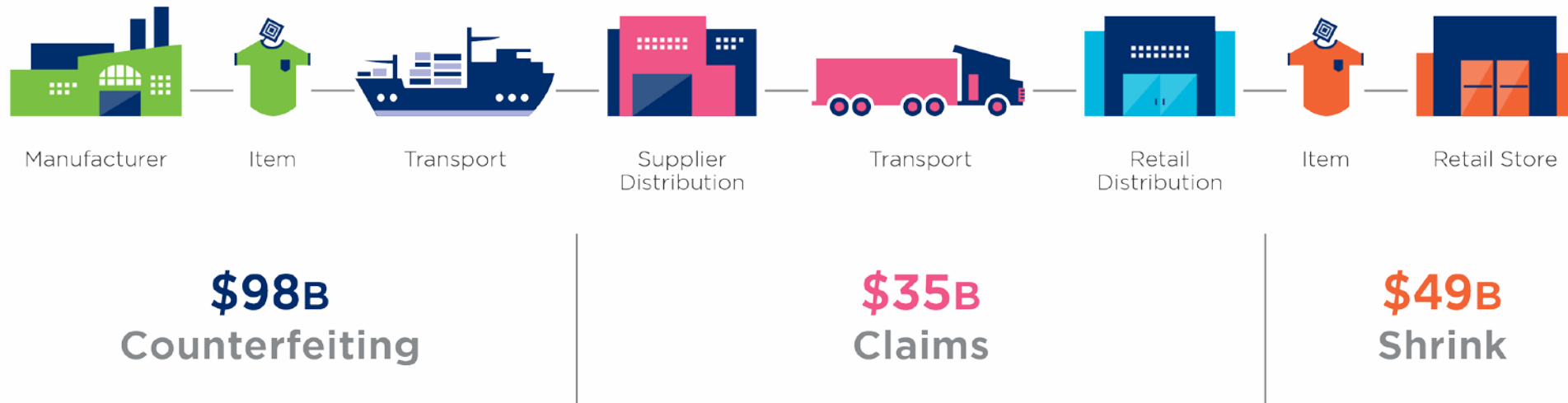
www.gs1us.org/ProjectZipper



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Auburn Blockchain Working Group: Retail Pain Points



*data from FY 2017

Source: CHIP Whitepaper v7.0 - Working Group Review

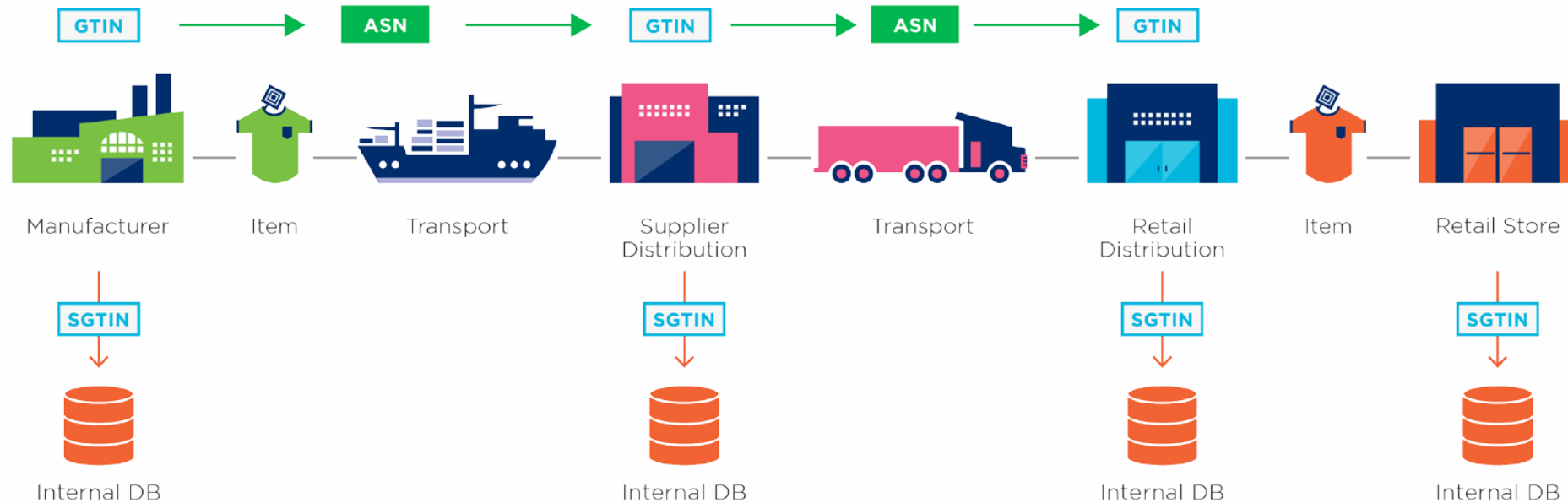


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Auburn Blockchain Working Group: Data Flow Today

GTIN* = U.P.C = Barcode
SGTIN = EPC = RFID



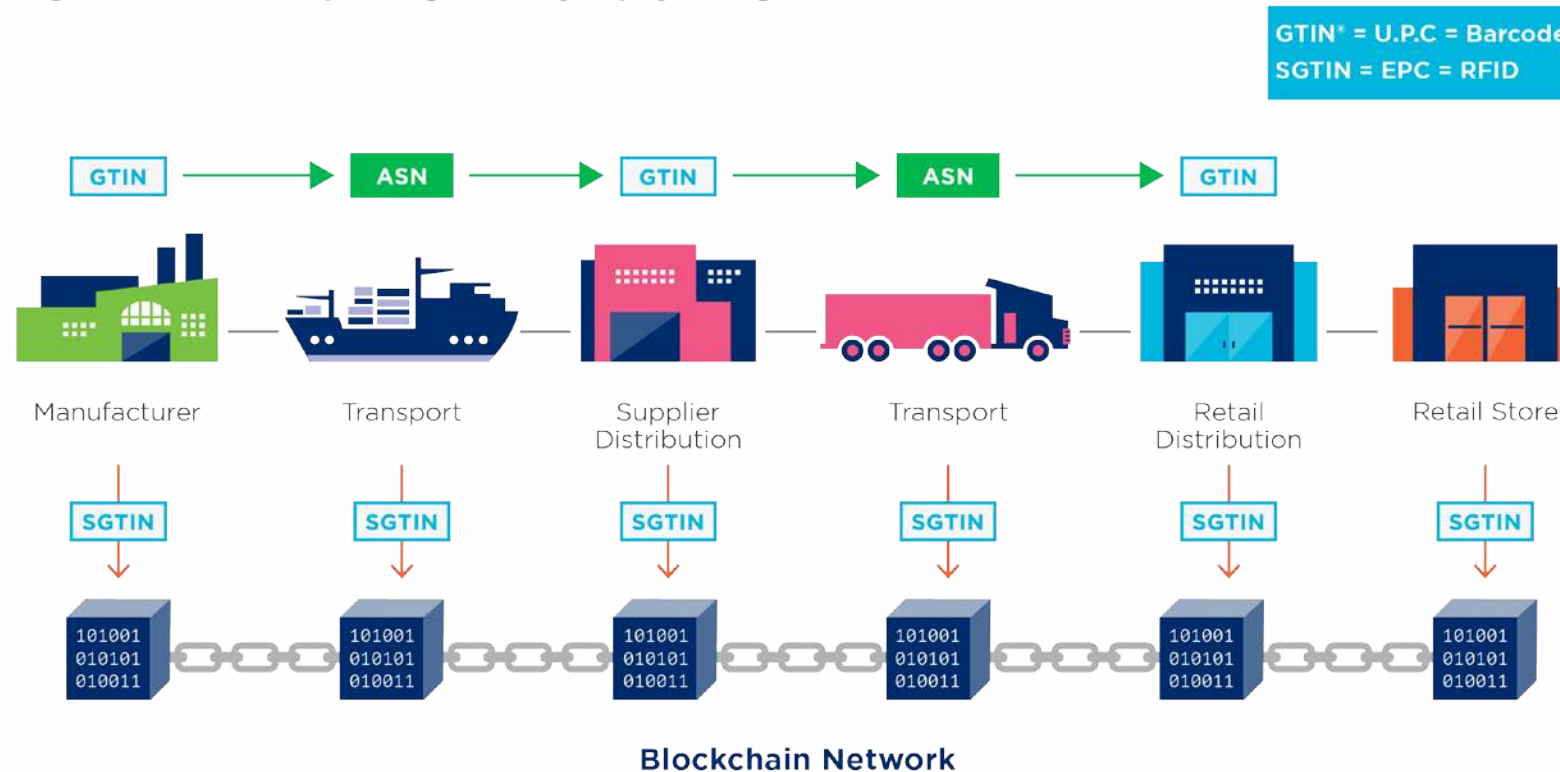
Source: CHIP Whitepaper v7.0 - Working Group Review



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Auburn Blockchain Working Group: Data Flow in the Future

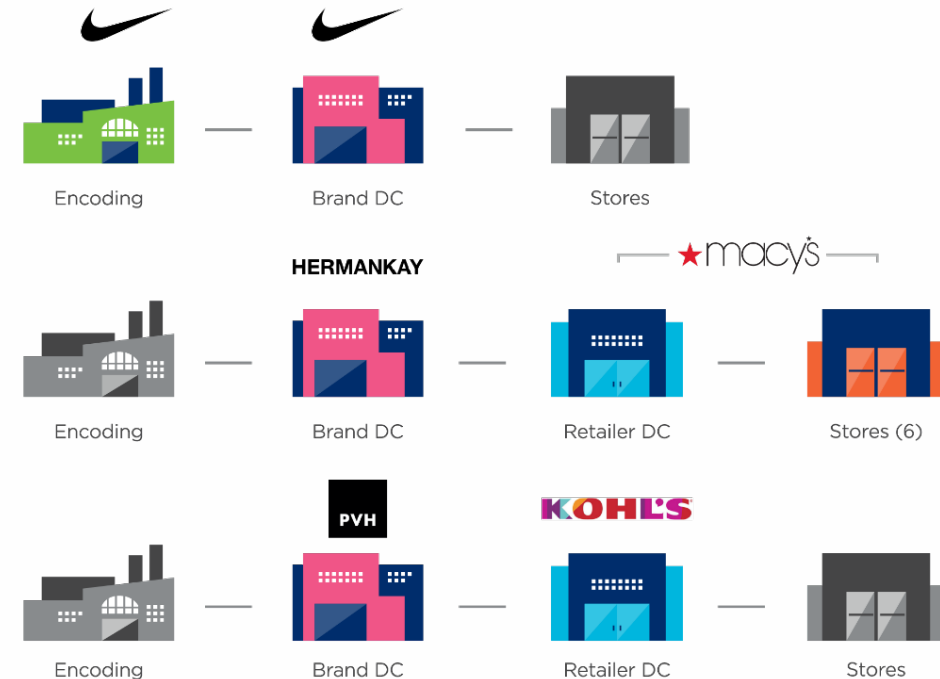


Source: CHIP Whitepaper v7.0 - Working Group Review

Step 1: Identify Serialized Systems & Stakeholders

For the first step of the PoC, each participant identified **serialized data touchpoints** throughout their supply chain as well as the **solution providers** that supported those serialized data systems.

Each partner pair was able to supply serialized data from multiple touchpoints ranging from **source to store**.



Source: CHIP Whitepaper v7.0 - Working Group Review

Step 2: Standardize Data Streams

Once pertinent serialized data systems were identified, they were **standardized** so that there would be a common language within the network.

EPCIS, an event-based data standard defined by GS1, was chosen as the universal language for the network. Partners could either standardize their data with a translator tool built by Auburn or transform the data independently.

Method A: Utilize Auburn Translator Tool



Four partners chose this method: **Kohl's, HermanKay, Nike, Macy's** (stores)

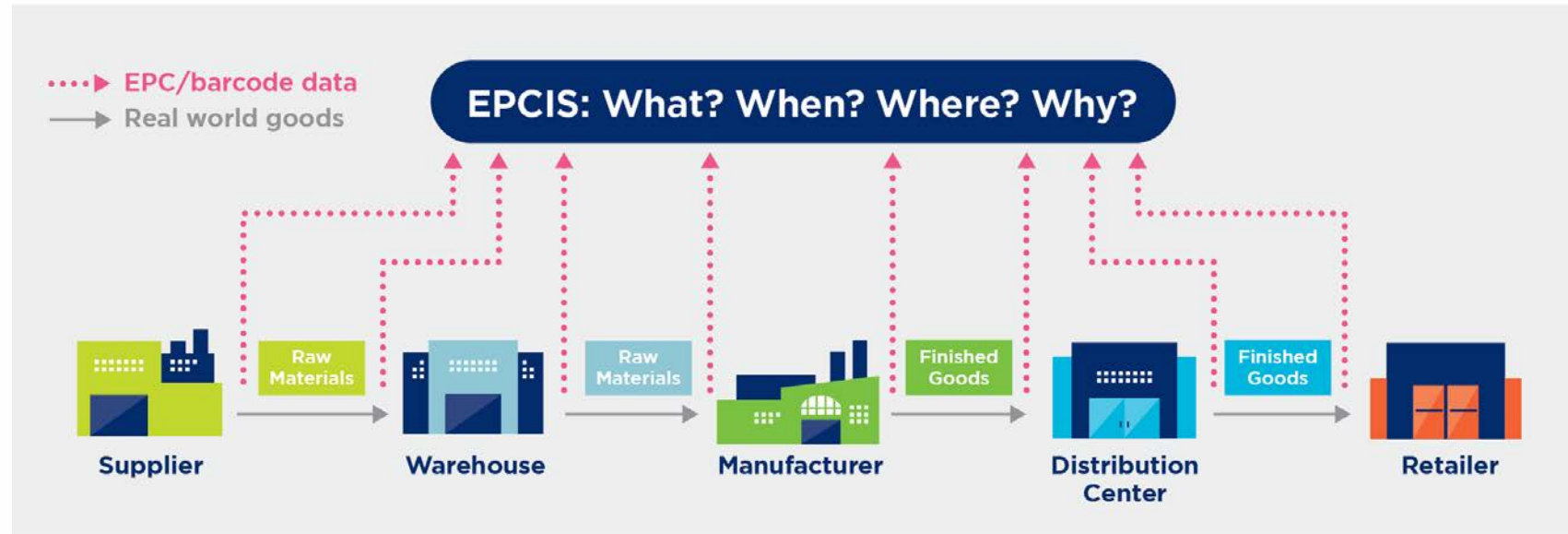
Method B: Perform transformation independently



Two partners chose this method: **PVH Corp., Macy's** (DC)

Source: CHIP Whitepaper v7.0 - Working Group Review

EPCIS: Visibility Syntax



EPCIS is flexible and extensible



EPCIS is global

Source: CHIP Whitepaper v7.0 - Working Group Review



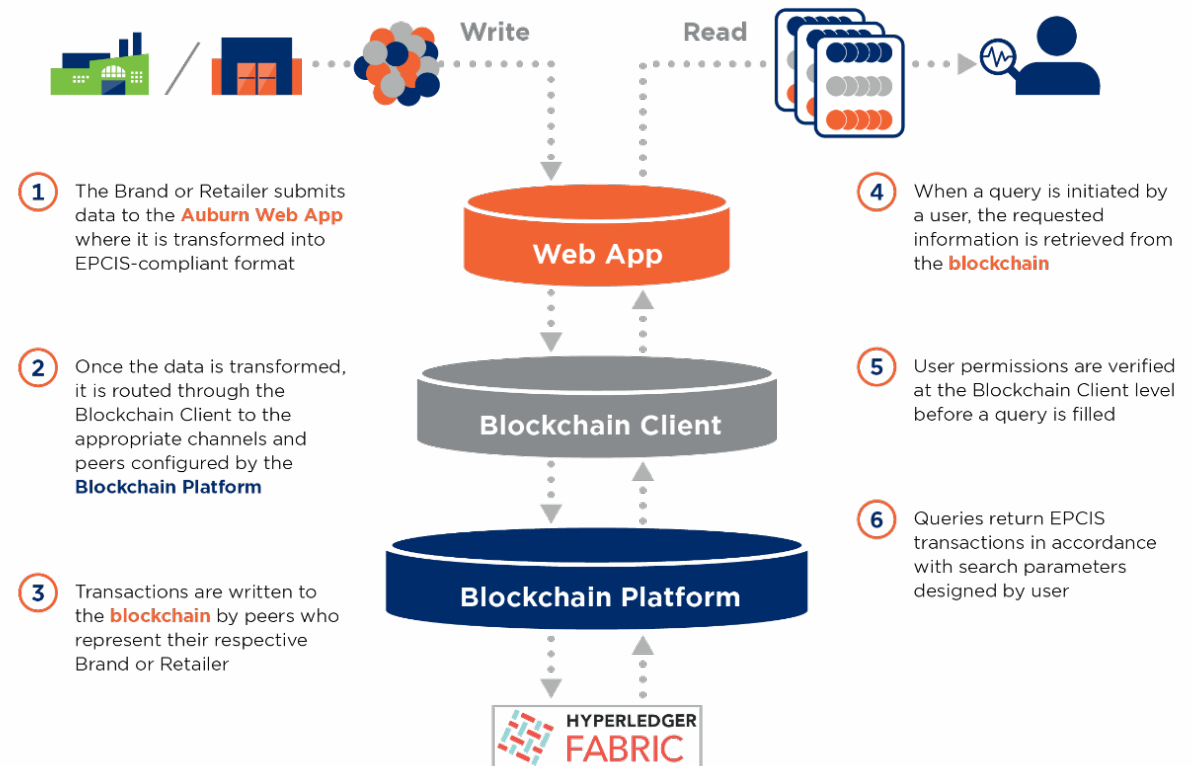
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Step 3: Integrate Data Streams Into the Blockchain

After serialized data streams were standardized, they were integrated into a **blockchain-based solution** that the Auburn team constructed and administered.

The solution was built on Hyperledger Fabric with the help of IBM's Blockchain Platform.



Source: CHIP Whitepaper v7.0 - Working Group Review

Proof-of-Concept Conclusion

Key Takeaways

- The PoC was able to successfully prove that blockchain is an effective method for exchanging serialized data
- EPCIS is key—a common platform requires a common language
- Data quality is paramount—“garbage in, garbage out”

What's Next

- Optimize performance and ensure scalability within the blockchain network
- Investigate vendor-neutral blockchain networks and multi-cloud deployments
- Launch the **CHIP Pilot** (phase 2)

Source: CHIP Whitepaper v7.0 - Working Group Review



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CHIP Phase 2 | Transitioning to Pilot

Goals of Next Phase

- The Step 1: Identify Serialized Systems & Stakeholders
- Step 2: Standardize Data Streams
- Step 3: Integrate Data Streams Into the Blockchain
- Step 4: Analyze
 - Financial Implications
 - Impact on Claims

ROI Opportunities

- Improve claims identification
- Claims reduction
- Faster time to reconciliation
- Lower reconciliation costs
- Automated data collection

Source: CHIP Whitepaper v7.0 - Working Group Review



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CHIP Phase 2 | Transitioning to Pilot

Goals of Next Phase

- The Step 1: Identify Serialized Systems & Stakeholders
- Step 2: Standardize Data Streams
- Step 3: Integrate Data Streams Into the Blockchain
- Step 4: Analyze
 - **Financial Implications**
 - **Impact on Claims**

ROI Opportunities

- Improve claims identification
- Claims reduction
- Faster time to reconciliation
- Lower reconciliation costs
- Automated data collection

Source: CHIP Whitepaper v7.0 - Working Group Review



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Data Collection Challenge

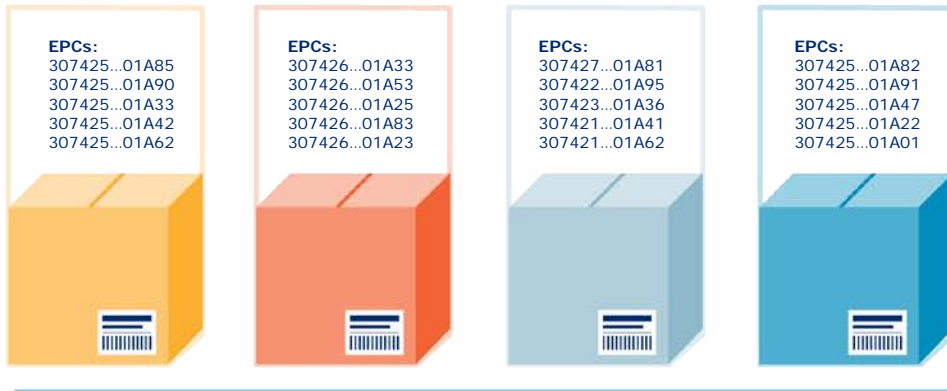
- Challenge: Capture RFID tag values
 - Items in a carton on a conveyor
 - Traveling at 5' per second, or faster, or variable speed
 - For footwear, for basics, for intimates, for other categories...
 - With near 100% accuracy
 - Properly associating all of the contents to the right carton
 - With the prior/next carton in close proximity



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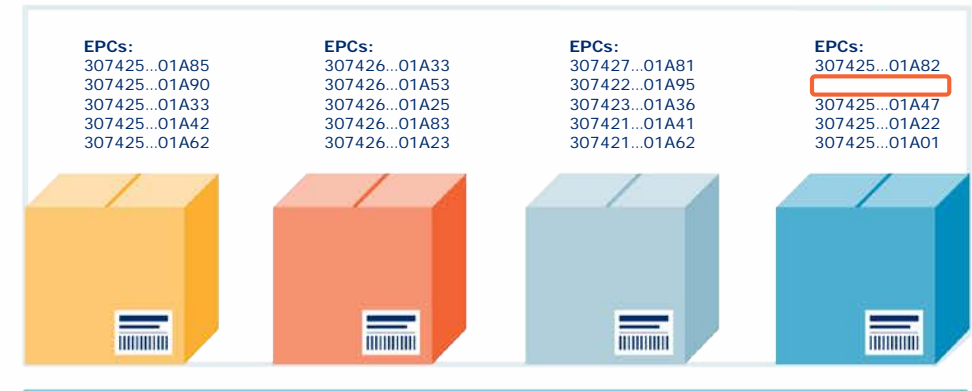
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Solution Approach



Factory

Validated Scan-Pack Data



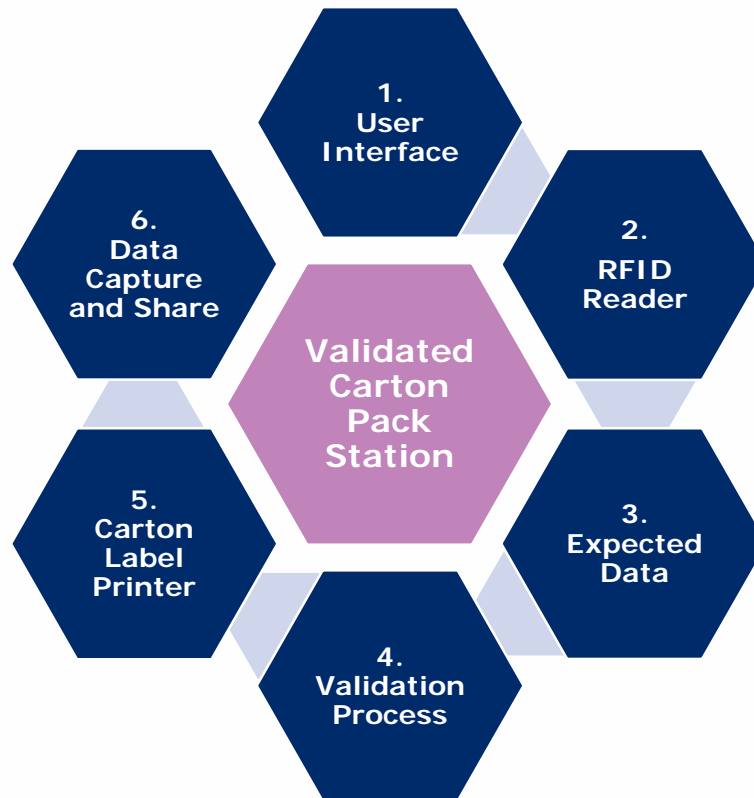
Brand Distribution Center

Conveyor Validation

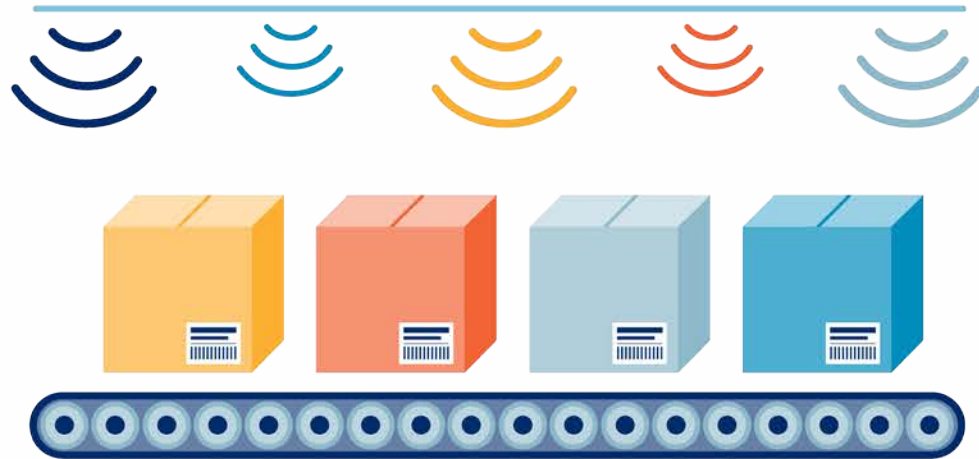


EPC Data Repository

Validated Carton Scan Pack Station Components



Conveyor Validation



Brand Distribution Center
Conveyor

Expected and Read EPCs

✓ 307425...01A85	✓ 307426...01A33	✓ 307427...01A81	✓ 307425...01A82
✓ 307425...01A90	✓ 307426...01A53	✓ 307422...01A95	! 307425...01A91
✓ 307425...01A33	✓ 307426...01A25	✓ 307423...01A36	✓ 307425...01A47
✓ 307425...01A42	✓ 307426...01A83	✓ 307421...01A41	✓ 307425...01A22
✓ 307425...01A62	✓ 307426...01A23	✓ 307421...01A62	✓ 307425...01A01



EPC Data Repository



with **Factory**

Validated Scan-Pack Data



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Wrap Up

- Upcoming events/milestones
 - RFID 101 Webinar: October 15th <https://site.gs1us.org/webinar-rfid-101-visibility.html>
 - RFID 201 Webinar: November 17th <https://site.gs1us.org/webinar-rfid-201.html>
- Make contact if interested in further discussions or potential workgroup participation!



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THANK YOU

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