

Product Data Standard v2026.10



What changes, from Governance Ballot 2026-01

The Product Data Governance Board decided Ballot 2026-01 by written ballot, with all four seats returning. Eleven of twelve items carried. This is every change those decisions make to the standard, plus the staff cleanup that ships in the same release.

Two kinds of change. Part 1 clarifies what the standard means. Nobody has to change their data or their files. Part 2 changes what a file must contain. Those changes take effect with release v2026.10, and the Compatibility Checker will not score anyone down on them until the conformance date, at least ninety days after the release.

Part 1. Effective when results publish. No data changes.

	Change	What it means for you
1	"Required" replaces "mandatory."	One word everywhere. The Data Dictionary column is now headed Required?. No field moves in or out of the required set.
2	The Data Dictionary is the single authority for which fields apply to which template.	A field is required on a template only where the Dictionary scopes it there. Templates are checked against the Dictionary before every release. Nine Dictionary records were corrected to match the templates you already fill.
3	Dimensions: Length, Width and Height are required. Depth is optional.	You supply three dimensions, not four. Measure the product out of its packaging. Height is base to top. Length is the longer base side, Width the shorter. ASA Length is what GS1 calls Depth, and that mapping is published in the Alias Registry in a form software can read.
4	The required set is ratified at 25 fields (was 27).	Depth and Depth UOM left the set. MSRP and IMAP/EMAP are now conditional: required only if you publish that price type, and never scored against you if you do not. Tell ASA once, in writing, which price types you publish. A field is required when a distributor cannot identify, classify, transact or physically handle the item without it, and a typical supplier can fill it for every item.
5	One naming convention for attribute names.	Title Case, whole words except standard acronyms (UPC, MPN, GTIN, UNSPSC, MSRP, UOM, HS, HTS), unit fields named "attribute + UOM", singular, no trailing punctuation. Seven names change in this release to meet it (see Part 3). Every old name stays an approved alias, so mappings that read names keep working.
6	Each price field has a published definition.	MSRP, List Price, Future List Price, IMAP/EMAP and UMAP/MAP are each defined. Where you publish an MSRP, it is the price a distributor reads first. Prices are stated in the currency in the Currency field. The standard defines the fields only and takes no position on any price.

Part 2. Effective with release v2026.10, with a conformance window.

	Change	What it means for you
7	Fields added where templates were short.	Water Heaters gains Material and MSRP. Pipe, Tubing, Fittings and Valves gains MSRP. Each is added as a new last column, so no existing column moves. MSRP stays conditional under change 4.
8	Customs codes are two defined fields: HS Code and HTS Code.	HS Code is the six-digit international code. HTS Code is the seven to ten digit national code, and its first six digits must match HS Code. Send HTS Code and HS Code is derived for you. The duplicate Harmonized Tariff Schedule Code column is removed from Bathing, Full-line Plumbing, Plumbing Rough and Water Heaters; every column after it moves one place left, so re-point any mapping keyed on column position. On Tools it is renamed HTS Code in place. The unused Harmonization Code / Commodity Code field is retired.
9	UNSPSC at the commodity level.	Supply the eight-digit commodity code from the UNSPSC version current when you submit. Enter NA where no reasonable commodity code exists.
10	Asset links must work.	Every link you supply must be a full HTTPS address with no raw spaces, open without a login, and keep working for the life of the item record. Covers all 54 link fields. Only Main Product Image is required; the rule applies to the links you choose to send.

Part 3. Staff cleanup in this release. Nothing for you to do.

These make the standard agree with itself. None adds or removes a field you must send, and no column moves.

	Cleanup	Detail
11	Old dictionary copies removed from the templates.	Five templates carried an out-of-date internal copy of the Data Dictionary that still showed the old required fields. The Data Dictionary file is now the only dictionary.
12	Format hints and alternate names filled in.	Blank format hints and alternate names on the templates now come straight from the Data Dictionary, and two hints that contradicted it are corrected.
13	Seven field names tidied.	Kit, List Price Changed, IMAP/EMAP Changed, UMAP/MAP Changed, Prop 65 Eligible and Small Parcel Postable lose their trailing question mark, and New Product Introduction Date gets a capital D. Old names are approved aliases.
14	Units that contradicted their own field fixed.	List Price UOM now takes Each, Pack, Box, Roll, Foot, Pair or Set, the units its description always listed, instead of USD. Flow Rate is in GPM. Maximum US Gallons (how much water a tub holds) is in Gallons, not gallons per flush.
15	Gaps in the Data Dictionary filled.	One duplicate entry merged, missing descriptions, types and categories added, and example values added to the required fields that had none. Two descriptions reworded: Material from "Material with which the product is made of" to "The material the product is made of."; Maximum US Gallons UOM from "UOM associated with Maximum US Gallons" to "UOM associated with Maximum US Gallons".

What does not change

Item 4 (Depth on the pipe, tubing, fittings and valves template) was withdrawn, because change 3 already made Depth optional everywhere. No other field was added to or removed from the required set, and no existing column moves except as described in change 8. Everything removed from the files is kept in the release's Removed Content Archive.