



The Home Depot
2455 Paces Ferry Road, N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30339-4024

DATE: March 12, 2004

Dear Home Depot Product Supplier,

Last year, we asked for your support and compliance as part of a Hardlines Industry initiative to synchronize item data that we sell. We are rapidly moving forward with this initiative. As a result, we plan to start electronic collaboration with suppliers in the third quarter of 2004 and eliminate all manual processing of basic item master "add/changes/deletes" with our product suppliers late 2005. To enable us to do this, all product suppliers will need to provide data through the UCCnet compliance format. Becoming UCCnet compliant is extremely important to our relationship as we look forward to reducing our mutual supply chain data cost. This project will take considerable time and resources within your company. If you have not already started, we urge you to get involved today. The following are the steps you need to complete to achieve data sync with The Home Depot:

1. Educate yourself and your employees. Go to The Home Depot's vendor portal (<https://vendor.homedepot.com>) for the latest information about UCCnet and check back frequently for The Home Depot's Global Data Sync rollout plans.
2. Secure senior level approval and funding within your company to proceed with Global Data Sync and UCCnet.
3. If you have not already done so, contact UCCnet and sign up to publish your items with the Global Registry.
4. If you have already contacted or started a working relationship with a UCCnet certified solution provider, we thank you, and urge you to continue working with them.

If you have not started your selection process, we urge you to do so quickly. Because there are many UCCnet solution providers in the marketplace, The Home Depot evaluated several top companies and chose five as the **Home Depot Preferred Data Sync Partners**. These vendors were selected based on their proven capabilities. A Preferred Data Sync Partner may contact you to inquire on your business needs or if you have not already selected a Data Sync Partner, we recommend engaging one of the following.

- **Sterling Commerce-** (www.sterlingcommerce.com)
- **Transora-** (www.transora.com)
- **LANS-** (www.lansa.com)
- **bTrade-** (www.btrade.com)
- **Inovis-** (www.inovis.com)

For our Canada based product suppliers, note that you can use **ECCC-** (www.eccc.org) in addition to the partners listed.

5. Review your internal systems, processes and data to prepare for UCCnet Global Data Sync.
6. Create your internal implementation plan, including the name, phone number and email address of your company Data Sync Project Leader, your chosen Preferred Data Sync Partner and expected time lines for publication of required data.
7. Communicate your implementation plan to Nate Perryman at (nate_perryman@homedepot.com) or at (partner_communications@homedepot.com) so together we can coordinate the timing from piloting to data synchronization go-live with The Home Depot.

The Home Depot is determined to enhance our supply chain efforts by synchronizing our business data, and we hope if you have not already started, that you follow the above steps and get on board quickly. You are a valued supplier and we look forward to you joining us on this item synchronization journey.

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Sr. Director, Merchandise Operations

Cc: Bill Lennie,
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MVP's / MVPA's,
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