Reuse of UN/CEFACT standards

The GS1 experience

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GS1 is a global standards organisation

GS1 is a neutral, not-for-profit organisation that develops and maintains the most widely used global standards for efficient business communication.

- Local Member Organisations in 116 countries and services provided in 150 markets
- 10 billion GS1 barcodes scanned daily
- 1 billion products carry GS1 barcodes
- More than 2 million companies use GS1 standards
- Serving industries worldwide for over 50 years
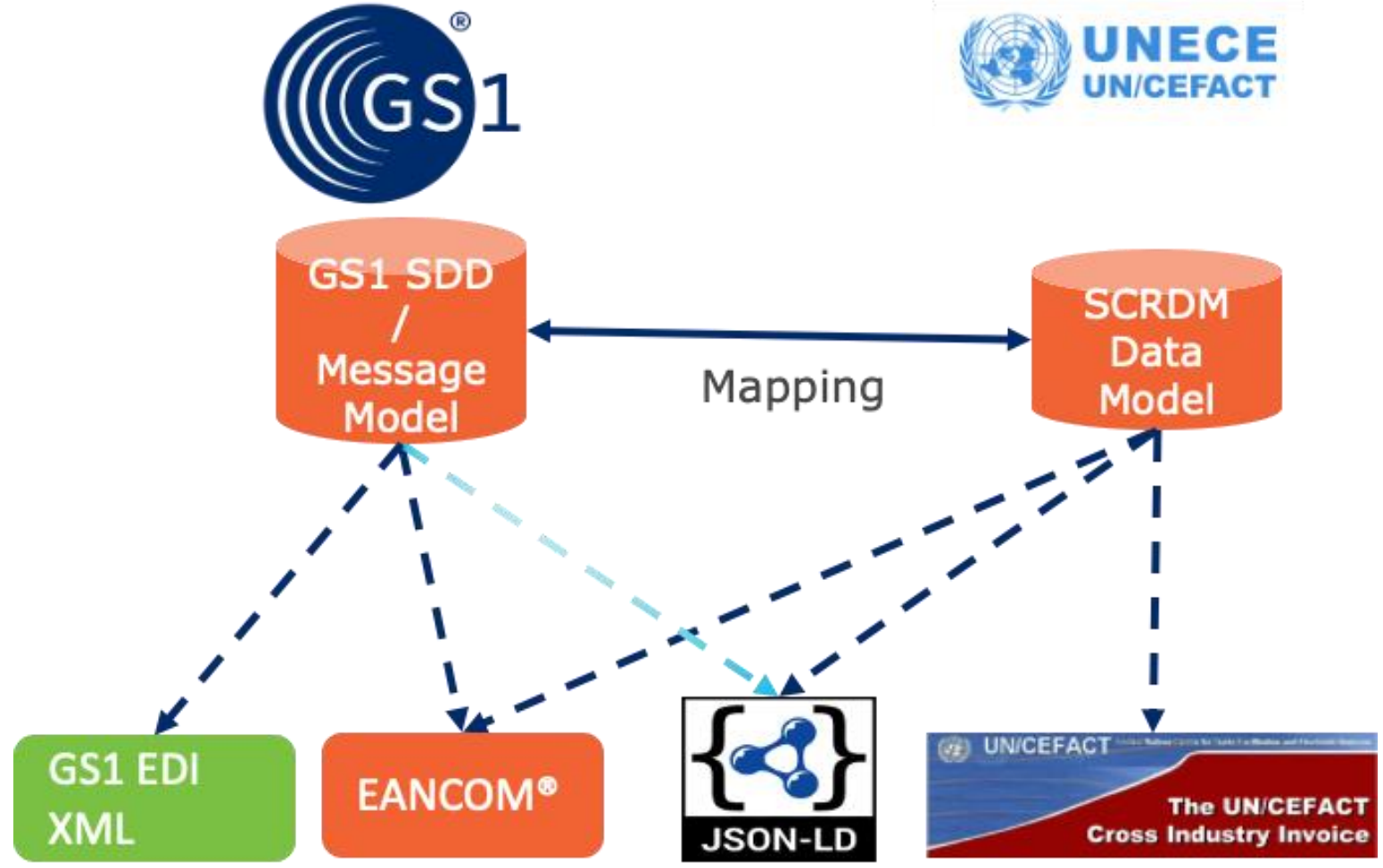
EANCOM: the first chapter of a collaboration

- In june 1989, the first release of EANCOM was published.

- The decision was to leverage an existing global standard, UN/EDIFACT, implementing a subset applicable to GS1 community

- The main messages implemented are:

  - Master data: PARTIN and PRICAT

  - Order to cash: ORDER, ORDRSP, DESADV, INVOIC...

  - Other processes

- In total EANCOM includes 46 different messages

Data sharing is evolving

- The focus is progressively shifting from syntaxes to semantic data models / ontologies
  - Business oriented definitions
  - Syntax neutral modelling
- The complexity of the market makes unlikely a scenario of a «single data model ruling them all»
  - Different industry business requirements
  - Regulators interventions at different levels, from local to global
  - Technology evolution
- The main goal is to be interoperable, being flexible in moving from a technology to another with limited effort and leveraging what is available

Semantic interoperability

Moving ahead with the collaboration

- EANCOM still widely supported (>130.000 identified users)

- GS1 Semantic Data Model mapped to UN/CEFACT SCRDM

- GS1 Profiles for UN/CEFACT CI XML messages

- Future potential area of collaboration:
  - subset of UN/CEFACT JSON schemas, based on SCRDM export
  - Integration to UN/CEFACT schema.org vocabulary for Linked Data support

Thank you!

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