

## **Associated Food Stores Selects 1SYNC for Data Synchronization Services Major Grocery Cooperative Joins Effort to Promote Accurate Supply Chain Data**

### **For Immediate Release**

#### **Contact :**

Corby Bleckert, (801) 978-8657, [cbleckert@afstores.com](mailto:cbleckert@afstores.com)

Jeff Oddo, 1SYNC/GS1 US™, (609) 620-4548, [joddo@gs1us.org](mailto:joddo@gs1us.org)

**SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, August 25, 2005** -- Associated Food Stores, Inc., a leading grocery wholesale distributor, announced today that it has selected 1SYNC™, the newly-combined UCCnet-Transora organization, as its data pool partner.

Under the agreement, which was reached in conjunction with GXS, a 1SYNC Onboard Support provider and leading provider of B2B e-commerce solutions, 1SYNC will provide comprehensive data synchronization services to support Associated Food Stores and the nearly 600 independently owned supermarkets it supports in the western United States. These services will enable Associated Food Stores to improve the accuracy of the information exchanged between its retailers and suppliers and achieve greater efficiency in key business processes. GXS and 1SYNC will work with AFS and its suppliers to begin the onboarding process so that AFS can quickly and efficiently begin synchronizing data.

An industry pioneer in data synchronization, 1SYNC, a subsidiary of GS1 US (formerly known as the Uniform Code Council), supports more than 4,000 subscribers in a wide range of verticals, including grocery, general merchandise retail, alcoholic beverages, hardlines, office supplies, and the automotive aftermarket. 1SYNC is also a certified data pool in the Global Data Synchronization Network (GDSN), a global, multi-sector initiative designed to help companies and their trading partners address the costly issue of incorrect supply chain data.

The GDSN connects data pools around the world through a centralized information depository called the GS1 Global Registry™. Utilizing a certified GDSN data pool, subscriber companies register product and location information, which is then checked for errors and compliance to industry-accepted standards. The “clean” information is then synchronized and made available to their trading partners, ensuring that they are exchanging and using up-to-date, standards-compliant data.

Rich Parkinson, the CEO of Associated Food Stores, said, “While Associated Food Stores encompasses the interests of nearly 600 independent retailers, we are all united when it comes to the issue of incorrect supply chain information. Data synchronization will eliminate costly errors, allow us to improve the way we conduct business with our suppliers, and, most importantly, help our retailers better serve their customers.”

Bob Noe, the CEO of 1SYNC, said, “By implementing data synchronization, companies like Associated Food Stores can focus on their core business and avoid wasting time and money caused by inaccurate supply chain information. We are pleased that they are joining the growing 1SYNC community of retailers, manufacturers, and distributors.”

#### **About 1SYNC**

1SYNC is a newly-formed subsidiary of GS1 US™, formerly the Uniform Code Council. It was formed by the combination of UCCnet and Transora, two Global Data Synchronization Network (GDSN) -certified data pools. 1SYNC offers a range of data synchronization services that enable the elimination of costly data errors, increased supply chain efficiencies, and the advancement of next-generation technologies like Electronic Product Code™ (EPC). GS1 US is a not-for-profit member organization of GS1, formerly EAN International, and is dedicated to the development and implementation of standards-based, global supply chain solutions. 1SYNC is headquartered in Lawrenceville, New Jersey. Visit [www.1SYNC.org](http://www.1SYNC.org) for more information.