Global Dialogue on Seafood Traceability (GDST)

GDST CAPABILITY TEST

How can it help you and how does it work?

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GLOBAL DIALOGUE
on Seafood Traceability

CONTENTS

What benefits does the Capability Test offer?

The Capability Test is an online tool that communicates directly with traceability platforms to test their performance. It was developed in response to strong industry demand, and delivers benefits both for producers and marketers of seafood products and for providers of traceability software and services:

Benefits for Producers and Marketers:
Confidence that a software solution is interoperable.
Assurance against vague claims of GDST compliance.
Industry-wide reduction in costs of integrations.

Solution Provider Benefits:
Ensures competition on a level playing field.
Increases the speed of integration with customers.
Lowers cost barriers of integration with customers.

The GDST Capability Test is currently the only GDST-authorized tool for gauging performance against the GDST Standard. The tool tests interoperability - the ability of different systems to exchange and make use of information – and verifies the ability of traceability software to support systems that meet the GDST Standard.

Determining GDST Capability

Question - If a traceability solution can capture the Key Data Elements (KDEs) listed in the GDST Standard, is it GDST capable?

Answer – Not necessarily.

There are three important elements required for GDST Capability and interoperability:

1. Alignment of the data that is being collected – This is in reference to the data requirements listed in the GDST Standard.

2. Alignment with the format that data is being sent and received – The GDST uses the JSON data format. If the format of data varies between systems sending and receiving data, then a customized translation layer will need to be developed to convert the data format used by the system sending the data to the format used by the one receiving the data.

3. A standardized communications protocol (API) – Similar to the issues created by not using a standard data format, not using a standard API result in the need to create a custom API between two systems. The GDST Standard mandates the GS1 digital link as the standard API.
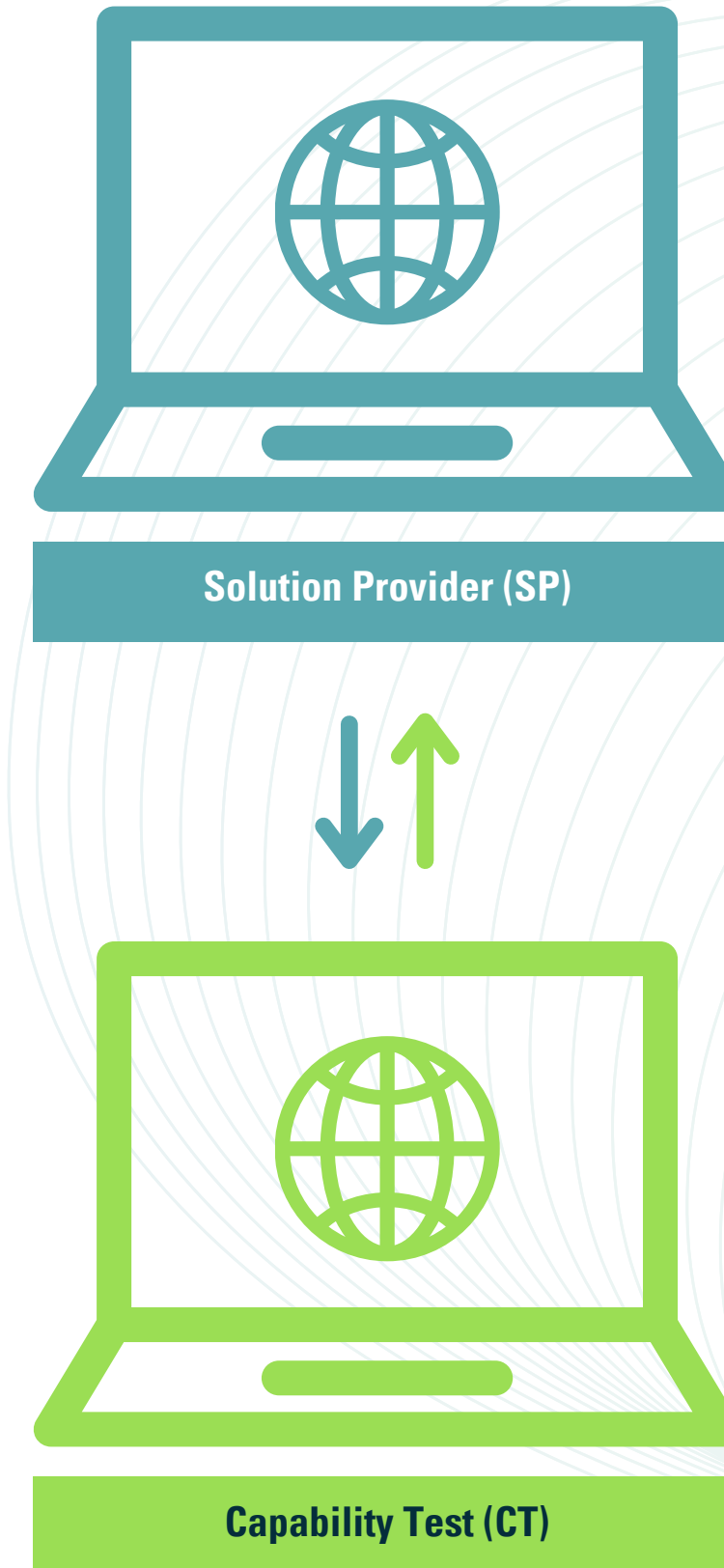
Lacking one of these three critical elements inevitably leads to higher implementation costs through customization.

What is the Capability Test?

The Capability Test is a piece of software that communicates directly with a traceability solution, simulating how two traceability systems would share data during a routine business transaction.

It tests a solution's ability to capture and share the full list of KDEs and master data in the required format using the required communication method outlined in the GDST Standard.
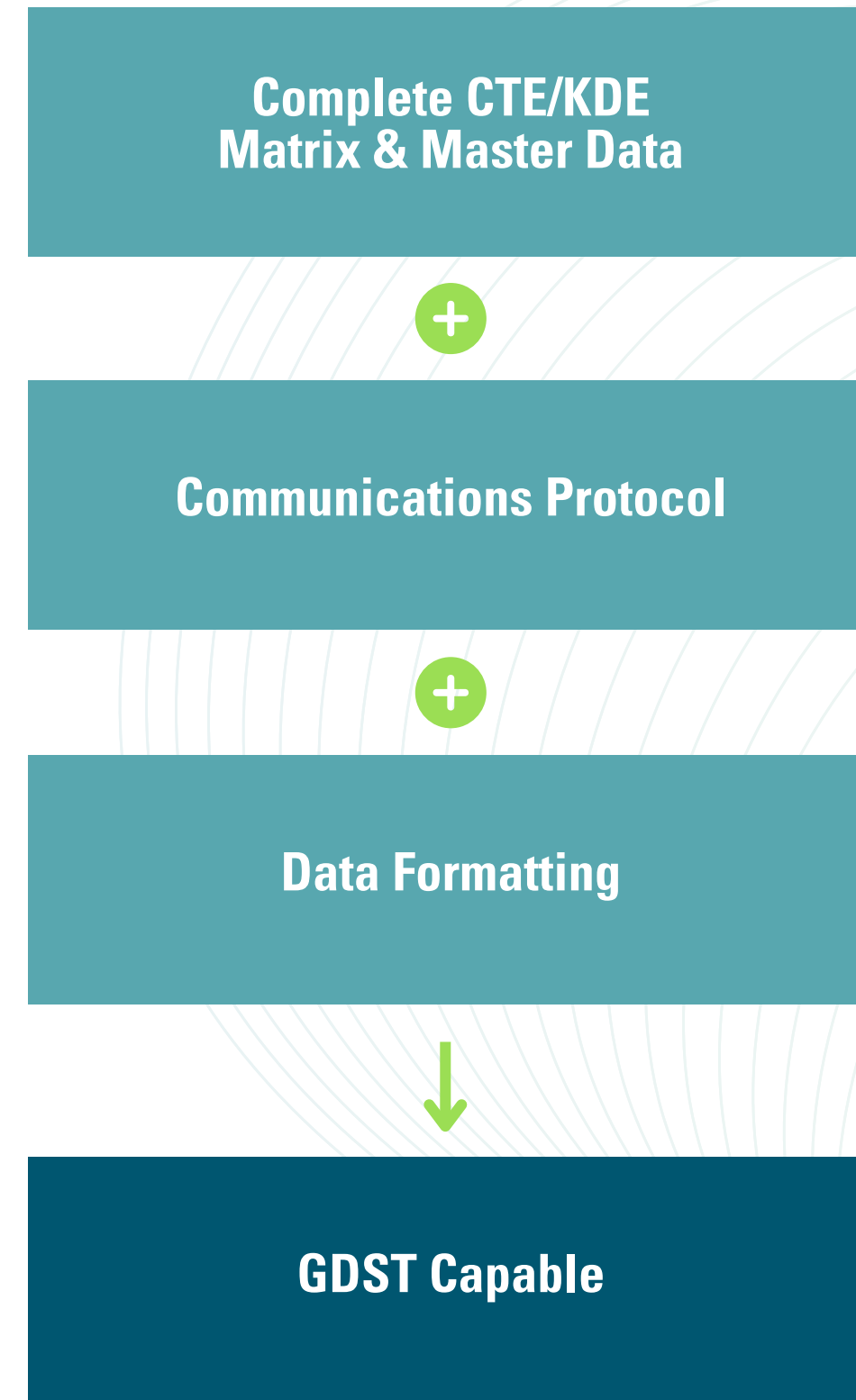
Solution Provider (SP)

Capability Test (CT)

How can the Capability Test help you?

The GDST developed this test to perform a technical software analysis to give our Partners a simple **YES** or **NO** answer to the question:

Is this traceability solution capable of capturing and sharing traceability data based on the GDST Standard?

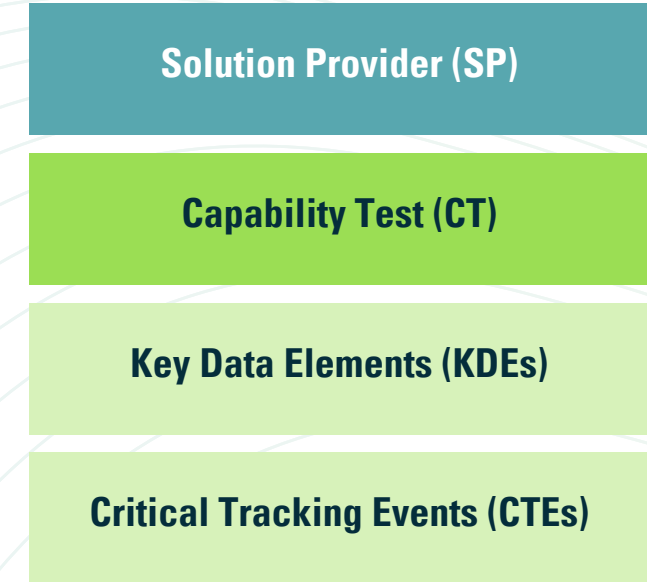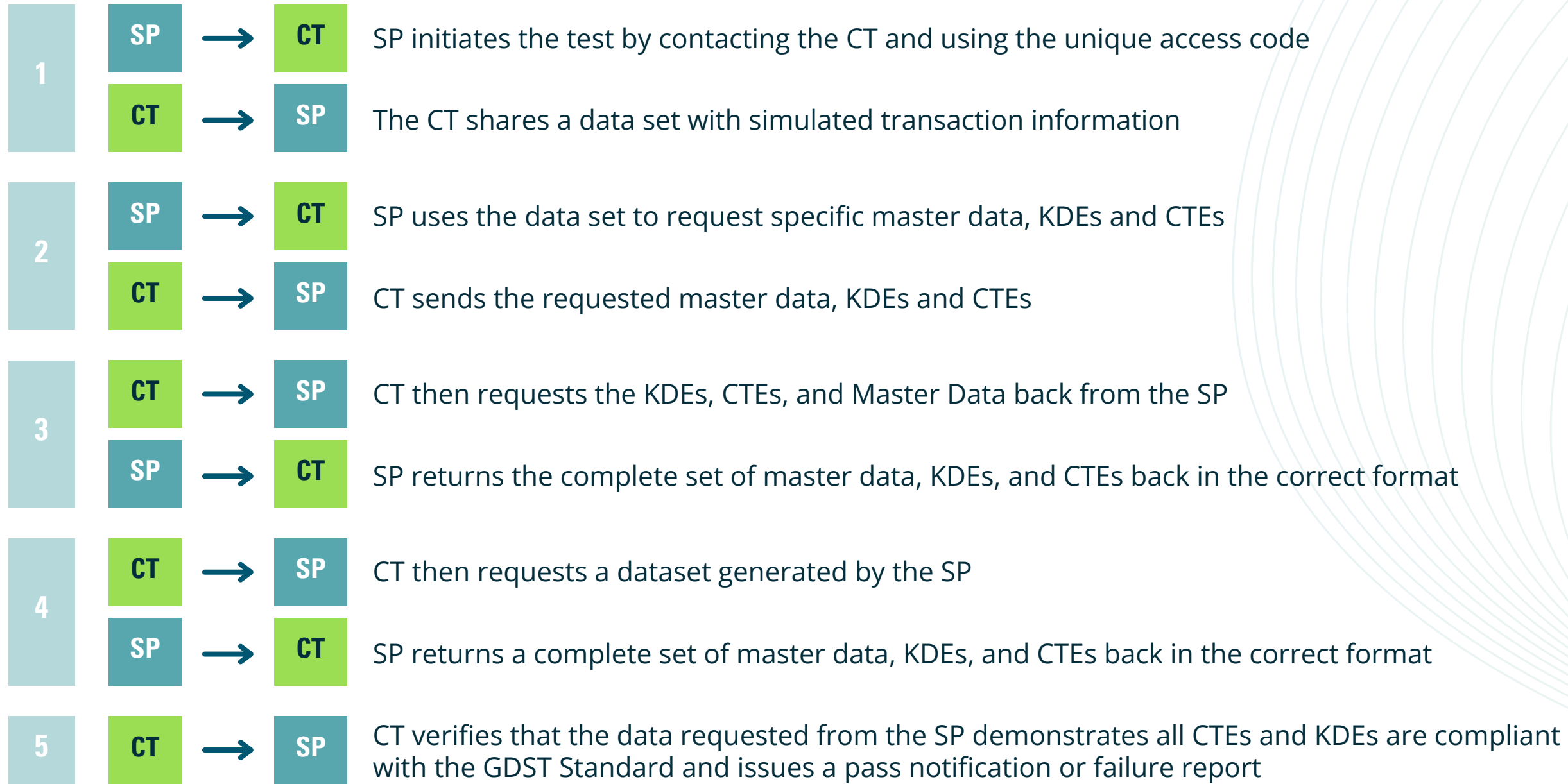This will allow our Partners to focus on the other aspects of traceability solutions when determining what system is right for them.

Complete CTE/KDE Matrix & Master Data

+

Communications Protocol

+

Data Formatting

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GDST Capable

How does the Capability Test work?

Solution Provider (SP)			
Capability Test (CT)			
Key Data Elements (KDEs)			
Critical Tracking Events (CTEs)			

Registration — Once successfully registered, the SP receives a URL and unique access code for the test

1
- SP → CT — SP initiates the test by contacting the CT and using the unique access code
- CT → SP — The CT shares a data set with simulated transaction information

2
- SP → CT — SP uses the data set to request specific master data, KDEs and CTEs
- CT → SP — CT sends the requested master data, KDEs and CTEs

3
- CT → SP — CT then requests the KDEs, CTEs, and Master Data back from the SP
- SP → CT — SP returns the complete set of master data, KDEs, and CTEs back in the correct format

4
- CT → SP — CT then requests a dataset generated by the SP
- SP → CT — SP returns a complete set of master data, KDEs, and CTEs back in the correct format

5
- CT → SP — CT verifies that the data requested from the SP demonstrates all CTEs and KDEs are compliant with the GDST Standard and issues a pass notification or failure report

Steps 1 & 2 – Test **communication protocols** and ability of SP to **receive** GDST data.

Steps 3, 4, & 5 – Test SP's ability to **format** and **send** compliant data.

*There are separate testing categories for first mile solutions that do not test a software's ability to receive information and only test against KDEs specific to either wild caught or farmed supply chains depending on the intended use.

Communicating a Successful Test

Traceability systems that have successfully passed are eligible to display a special **"GDST-Capable" logo** and will receive public recognition on the GDST's website, allowing companies to demonstrate the verified GDST capability of their software to their customers and supply chain partners.

Access to a list of capable traceability systems is beneficial for everyone:

Solution Providers
Creates a level playing field for the solution providers that fully implement the GDST Standard.

Producers and Marketers
Peace of mind that the solution they chose is GDST capable allowing them to focus on other aspects important for their business.

Seafood Industry
Increases the ease of implementing the GDST Standard across supply chains through interoperable systems.

Verified GDST Capable Logo:

CONTACT

If you have any questions, please reach out to us at **info@thegdst.org**

Stay connected at:

- 🌐 theGDST.org
- ✉️ info@thegdst.org
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