



May 15, 2007

RE: HD Supply Facilities Maintenance Announces Data Collection Program for Suppliers

HD Supply Facilities Maintenance is excited to announce its partnership with Big Hammer and the launch of the Data Collection Program, an initiative that our suppliers can utilize to exchange logistical, product and marketing data in a way that is seamless and error-free. The Data Collection Program is designed to benefit both HD Supply Facilities Maintenance and our suppliers.

Supplier Benefits of the Data Collection Program:

Increased sales

- Effective marketing using enhanced product data to improve response rates
- Improved “search” results on hdsupplysolutions.com based on specific product attributes to increase the likelihood that your product is viewed
- Promotional e-mails utilizing additional images and videos to capture the customer’s interest

Reduced data requests from distributors and customers

- Enriched digital content provided by suppliers can be made available to any trading partner via a public data pool
- Customers will have all of your content at their fingertips

How it works:

Big Hammer’s **Hardlines Marketing Data Pool (HMDP)** stores and manages a supplier’s rich **marketing data** in one location while the **Global Data Synchronization Network (GDSN)** is a system of independent data pools that enables retailers and suppliers to efficiently exchange accurate, real-time **supply chain data**. Becoming part of these data pools not only ensures that you will sell more products more easily and in more places, but you will also have a single place to manage all of this rich content for all the retailers in your supply chain.

Guidelines:

Many of our suppliers are already participating in The Home Depot’s data collection program and are members of the GDSN. For those already enrolled, there may not be any additional cost to you. For non-enrolled suppliers, you will incur a small cost for participation. Once you begin the enrollment process, you will be asked to select your item count information. This information will categorize your company into a specific pricing group.

Enrollment will begin immediately in Big Hammer’s HMDP and the GDSN to ensure availability of the product content data in a quick and timely manner and to unite both the GDSN and marketing product data collection efforts through one solution provider. Big Hammer and HD Supply Facilities Maintenance will be working jointly to ensure success of the program. We ask that you take the necessary steps to complete enrollment by June 22, 2007.

Key Dates and Milestones:

May 15, 2007

HD Supply Facilities Maintenance announces HMDP and GDSN Data Pool initiatives via the program letter.

May 22, 2007

Required online kickoff meetings for suppliers to introduce the program and discuss next steps. Please [click here](#) to register for one of the available sessions.

June 22, 2007

All suppliers should have completed their enrollment into Big Hammer’s HMDP and selected a GDSN provider prior to this date. At this point, non-participating suppliers will be referred to HD Supply Facilities Maintenance for further review.

Supplier Center

Get up-to-date program information, FAQ’s, Getting Started Guides, and more information regarding the Hardlines Marketing Data Pool on the Supplier Center at <http://www.bighammer.com/hdsupply/>.

Action Required:

HD Supply Facilities Maintenance has initiated an aggressive schedule to ensure timely data collection of the enhanced data. Please make arrangements to attend one of our online program kickoff sessions. You will be receiving more information on enrollment and the collection period for your data directly from Big Hammer. Please review these communications carefully and take the steps outlined in each. If you have questions regarding the program, please contact Big Hammer Customer Support directly, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. ET, at 866.865.6602 or e-mail bighammersupport@bighammer.com.

We appreciate your support of this valuable program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robin Soehl". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robin Soehl, VP of Merchandising & Marketing
HD Supply Facilities Maintenance