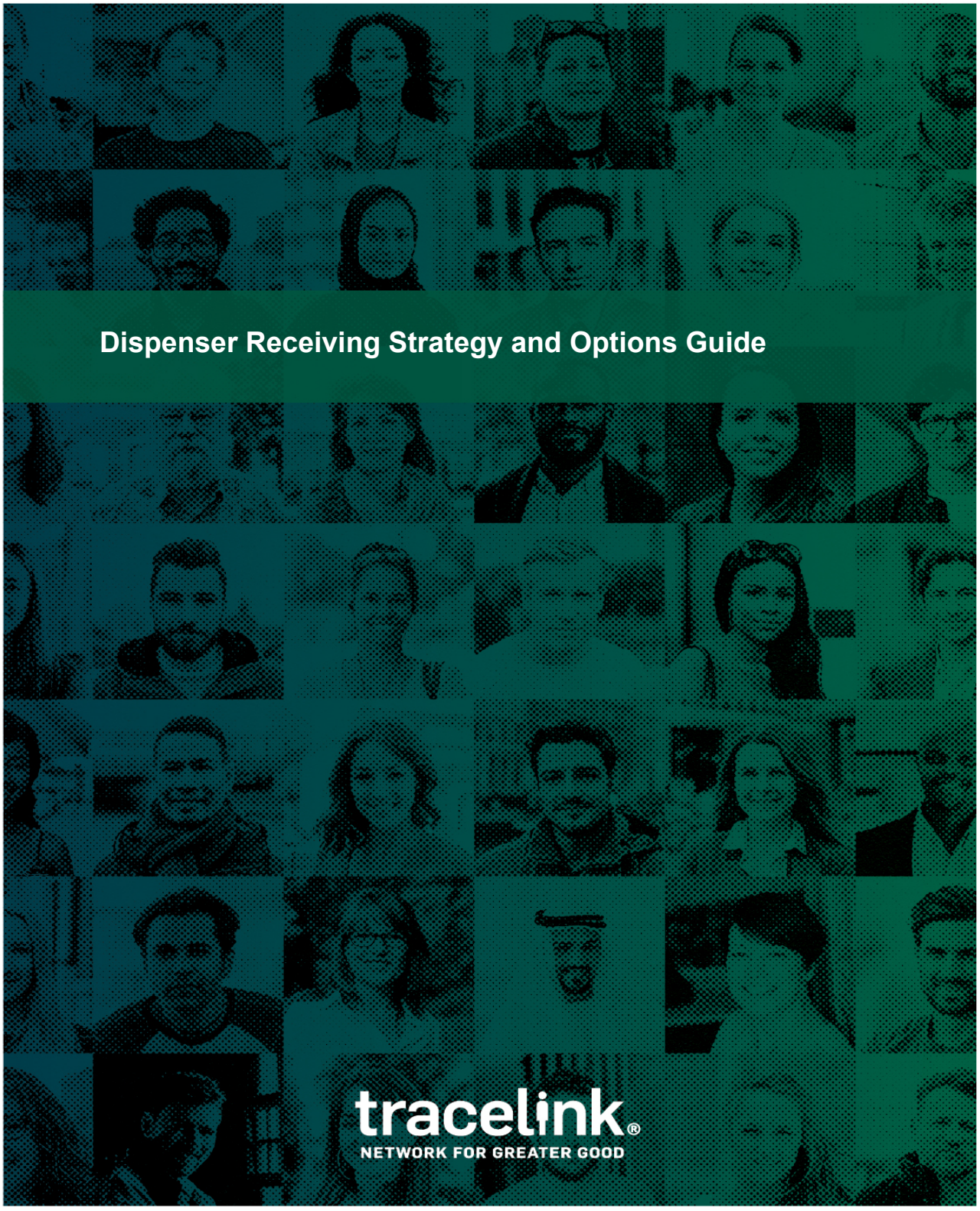
Dispenser Receiving Strategy and Options Guide
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Dispenser Receiving Strategy & Options Guide

This detailed guide provides an overview of receiving strategies available for US pharmacies within the pharmaceutical supply chain, focusing on technology-driven approaches that ensure accurate, secure, and efficient processing of incoming shipments. The strategies vary in complexity, mobility, and automation, allowing pharmacies to choose an option that best suits their operational needs.

Reconciliation Options

Did you receive compliance data for the physical product I'm taking ownership of?

TraceLink provides three solution options to progress from the minimal level of compliance to business value through DSCSA.

Option 1 - TraceLink Web User Interface (UI)

The TraceLink Web UI is an interface designed to handle receiving operations through desktop or laptop computers. This is ideal for environments where staff work from a centralized receiving desk or inventory control station.

Supported Interfaces:

- **Wedge Scanner:** A scanner that interfaces with the computer system, allowing users to scan barcodes directly from the receiving desk.
- **Keyboard:** Manual entry using the keyboard for backup purposes or when barcode scanning is unavailable.

Features:

- **Centralized Control:** Users operate from a fixed station, allowing for a structured receiving process.
- **Data Accuracy:** Real-time data capture using the web interface, ensuring accurate inventory updates.

Optimal Use Cases:

- Pharmacies with a stable and consistent flow of deliveries that can be processed at a fixed location, such as back-end operations in chain pharmacies or mail-order pharmacies where employees remain at a desktop or counter.
- Pharmacies receiving regular but manageable volumes of products, where the receiving process is best controlled from a stationary point, such as a workstation or laptop.

Option 2 - Smart Inventory Tracker (SIT) Mobile Application

Smart Inventory Tracker (SIT) mobile app provides flexibility and mobility during receiving operations. It allows users to scan and update inventory while moving through different areas of the pharmacy, storage space or warehouse.

Supported Interfaces:

- **Mobile Smart Scanner**: A handheld scanner that syncs with the SIT mobile application, enabling real-time barcode scanning while the user moves around.

Features:

- **Mobility:** Enables users to move freely around the pharmacy or storage areas while receiving and scanning products. Particularly useful in warehouses or multi-room facilities.
- **Real-Time Updates:** Inventory updates are synced in real time, ensuring the system reflects the most current stock levels and reducing delays in inventory tracking.
- **Flexibility:** The mobile app can be used by multiple staff members, making it adaptable to various receiving environments.

Optimal Use Cases:

- Pharmacies that need greater flexibility, such as hospital pharmacies or larger retail pharmacies where items may be delivered to multiple points and need to be scanned on the go.
- Ideal for scenarios where it is impractical to process shipments at a fixed station, allowing pharmacists or receiving clerks to use mobile devices for efficient inventory updates.

Option 3 - Customer Internal System Integration

For pharmacies with existing pharmacy management systems (PMS) or inventory management systems, integrating with TraceLink allows for seamless data sharing between the internal systems and the TraceLink platform.

Supported Interfaces:

- **TraceLink's Published APIs:** APIs (Application Programming Interfaces) that allow a pharmacy’s internal systems to communicate directly with TraceLink for sending and receiving data.

Features:

- **Automation:** Eliminates manual data entry by automating the send/receive messaging between the internal systems and TraceLink.
- **Custom Integration:** Pharmacies can tailor the integration to their specific workflow, ensuring the data exchange is efficient and fits their operational needs.
- **Scalability:** This integration is highly scalable, making it suitable for both small, independent pharmacies and large pharmacy chains or hospital networks.

Optimal Use Cases:

- Pharmacies that need greater flexibility, such as hospital pharmacies or larger retail pharmacies where items may be delivered to multiple points and need to be scanned on the go.
- Ideal for scenarios where it is impractical to process shipments at a fixed station, allowing pharmacists or receiving clerks to use mobile devices for efficient inventory updates.

Receiving with Inference and Aggregation (Totes & Pallets)

Inference and aggregation are methods that significantly streamline the receiving process by reducing the number of scans required during product intake.

Tote - Receiving Inference with Aggregation

Process:

- The pharmacy receives products in totes (small bins or containers).
- Only one scan is required: the tote's barcode. The system automatically infers all the products contained within the tote by aggregating the information from prior packaging steps.

Features:

- **Efficiency:** Speeds up the receiving process, as individual product scanning is unnecessary.
- **Simplified Workflows:** Reduces manual intervention, minimizing human error.

Optimal Use Case:

Best for pharmacies dealing with moderate volumes of products packed into totes or bins. Ideal for daily deliveries where each tote contains multiple products, such as prescription drugs or over-the-counter items.

Pallet - Receiving Inference with Aggregation

Process:

- Products are delivered on pallets, with a single barcode on the pallet representing the entire shipment.
- One scan of the pallet barcode aggregates all the product data tied to the pallet.

Features:

- **High Throughput:** Streamlines receiving for large, bulk shipments typically received by high-volume or distribution center pharmacies.
- **Time-Saving:** Reduces the need for scanning each individual box or package on the pallet.

Optimal Use Case:

Ideal for larger pharmacies or central distribution hubs handling bulk orders or high-frequency deliveries. This method is particularly useful when receiving bulk shipments from wholesalers.

Summary of Receiving Strategy Options

Method	Best For	Benefits	Supported Interfaces
TraceLink Web UI	High volume receiving	Centralized control, real-time updates	Wedge Scanner, Keyboard
TraceLink SIT Mobile App	Mobility during receiving, large facilities	Flexible, real-time data sync	Mobile Smart Scanner
Internal System + TraceLink Integration	Automated high-volume operations	Automation, data accuracy, scalability	TraceLink Published APIs
Tote - Receiving Inference	Small to moderate volume receiving	Reduces scans, speeds up workflow	All - 1 Scan per tote
Pallet - Receiving Inference	High volume receiving	Streamlined pallet processing, minimal scans	All - 1 Scan per Pallet

Shipped Serial Numbers vs. Received Serial Numbers

TraceLink provides the ability to download csv extracts for each delivery so that users can download a list of serial numbers that have been shipped and compare that to a list of serial numbers that have been received.

Optimal Use Case:

This is useful for pharmacies that receive incremental deliveries. For example, if you are a pharmacy that received 50 serial numbers in a shipment on the first day and 20 serial numbers on the second day. You may need to reconcile the serial numbers that have been physically "received" and compare those to serial numbers that are "shipped" in TraceLink.

Tips

Once you are in Serialized Operations Manager and you are viewing the receipt. Select  in the upper right and then select:

- **Export Shipped Numbers** - to export all the associated serial numbers with the receipt along with their hierarchy.
- **Export Received Numbers** - to export all the received serial numbers associated with the receipt along with their statuses.

You can then compare the received serial numbers with the serial numbers that have been shipped.