

## Productization, Product Structure, and Data for Supply Chain Traceability

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### Abstract

*Traceability is important for companies internally, but also across the supply chain (SC) as it is vital to have the ability to identify the origin, movements, and associated information relating to products. Products can be viewed through the structural logic consisting of elements such as sales items (stock-keeping units), assemblies, and components. Traceability links to many standards, regulations, and a multitude of technologies. However, the linkage to productization and product structure has been particularly deficient from the SC perspective. Hence, this study focuses on productization, product structure, traceability data, and SC traceability. Literature and real-life potential of SC traceability are explored by linking to productization and product structure. The findings indicate that consistent productization and product structure support traceability over the SC. The combined logic of business processes, IT, and data is particularly emphasised for traceability. The potential of application-independent traceability is highlighted.*

**Keywords:** traceability, productization, product structure, supply chain, traceability data, data flow, product flow, product management.