Q-UPID

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One Part. One Code. Everywhere.

Imagine a world where every manufactured part has one permanent, universally recognisable identity.

A world where manufacturers, suppliers, distributors and customers can identify precisely the same part, regardless of language, geography, catalogue or computer system.

Where millions of duplicated material records can be connected. Where part information can be verified at its source. Where artificial intelligence can establish what a part actually is, rather than guess from inconsistent descriptions.

That is the vision of Q-UPID™.

Scan to open this page.

q-upid.com

The Problem: A World of Disconnected Part Data

The same industrial component can exist under hundreds of different descriptions, supplier references and ERP material numbers.

Manufacturers know what they make. Distributors know what they sell. Customers know what they buy.

But their systems often struggle to establish that they are talking about exactly the same thing.

The consequences are enormous: duplicated inventories, incorrect procurement, wasted engineering effort, unreliable part matching and billions spent managing fragmented information.

The world doesn't lack part data.

It lacks a universally shared understanding of part identity.

The Solution: Q-UPID

Q-UPID proposes a globally unique, permanent identity assigned to one precisely defined manufacturer's part.

Built on four uncompromising principles:

> ### Globally Unique. Manufacturer-Specific. Manufacturer-Defined. Permanent.

A Q-UPID is not another descriptive part number. It doesn't encode a manufacturer, country, classification or product category.

It is a permanent digital key connecting a part to its authoritative identity.

Descriptions can be corrected. Classifications can change. Distributors can multiply. Customer references can run into the thousands.

The identity stays constant while the manufacturer and part number stay the same.
Change either and the part has a new Q-UPID.

The Power of One Identity

Connect the Entire Supply Chain

One Q-UPID can connect a manufacturer's original specification to distributor catalogues, procurement systems, maintenance records and customer ERP material masters.

Different organisations retain their own systems and identifiers, while Q-UPID provides the common reference between them.

Unlock the Potential of AI

Artificial intelligence is exceptionally powerful at finding similarities. But similarity is not certainty.

Q-UPID could provide the verified identity layer that AI-powered part matching needs.

Instead of repeatedly interpreting ambiguous descriptions, AI systems could reconcile records against a shared, manufacturer-specific part identity.

AI discovers the relationship. Q-UPID anchors the identity.

Transform ERP Master Data

Imagine identifying thousands of duplicate material records across SAP environments, connecting supplier catalogues to authoritative part specifications, and maintaining part information across multiple businesses.

Q-UPID could become the bridge between fragmented enterprise records and a consistent global part registry.

Enable Part-Level Traceability

Scan a Q-UPID and potentially retrieve a part's authoritative specification, manufacturer, classification and approved references.

The identity could support verification, digital product passports, technical documentation and product lifecycle management.

The barcode becomes more than a label.

It becomes a gateway to the part's digital identity.

Create a Network That Grows More Valuable

Every manufacturer that registers parts, every distributor that maps its catalogue and every enterprise that connects its materials could increase the usefulness of the shared registry.

As adoption grows, part matching becomes easier, data duplication becomes more visible and the cost of connecting systems could fall.

The value is not merely in issuing identifiers.

The value is in the relationships those identifiers make possible.

How to Get Your Q-UPID

This is the planned registration process. Allocating a Q-UPID is completely free: no fee for the code, none to keep it and none to print it. Charges apply only to optional help and data tools, never to the code. To be among the first, send us an enquiry.

1. **Register your legal entity.**
   Tell us who the manufacturer is.
2. **Provide your Trade Name and a business email.**
   The email must align to your identity, so we know the request comes from the manufacturer.
3. **Agree to share data about your part with the world.**
   The Q-UPID registry is planned to be open, so what you register could be seen and verified by anyone.

4 **Add your parts.**
Type them in or upload a list. Each needs a valid Manufacturer Name, a Part Number and, at a minimum, a Part description.

5 **Receive your Q-UPIDs.**
Each part gets its own permanent identity. One manufacturer and one part number is one Q-UPID. If the part number changes, it is a new part and gets a new Q-UPID. If the part number stays the same, so does the Q-UPID, because the manufacturer defines what its part number means.

Want help with your taxonomy and naming? We have incredible tools to help you standardise your data, so your parts are easy to find. The next section shows what standardised data looks like.

Structured Descriptions: Noun, Modifier, Attributes

A free-text description changes with whoever types it. A structured description is built the same way every time, from three parts:

Noun	What the item is. It comes first. Here: **BEARING**.
Modifier	The kind of that noun. BEARING has 12 modifiers; this one is **BALL**.
Attributes	The characteristics that describe the item, each with a value and, where it applies, a unit of measure (UOM). Attributes marked P are preferred: they count most towards a complete description.

Here is a ball bearing, entered in the Material-Masters Builder:

NOUN
BEARING

MODIFIER
BALL

ATTRIBUTES

14 attributes · 5 Preferred (P)

#	Attribute	Value	UOM
1	TYPE	DEEP GROOVED	
2	INSIDE DIAMETER P	20	MM
3	OUTSIDE DIAMETER P	47	MM
4	WIDTH P	14	MM
5	BORE TYPE	STRAIGHT	
6	ROW P	SINGLE	
7	STYLE	OPEN	
8	CAGE MATERIAL	BEARING STEEL	
9	RADIAL CLEARANCE P	CN	
10	DUTY TYPE	LIGHT	
11	ROTATIONAL SPEED	20000	RPM
12	DYNAMIC LOAD RATING	13.5	KN
13	STANDARD	ISO 15	
14	LUBRICANT	*not yet completed*	

The record turns into one consistent description, noun and modifier first, then one attribute on each line:

```
BEARING BALL
TYPE: DEEP GROOVED
INSIDE DIAMETER: 20 MM
OUTSIDE DIAMETER: 47 MM
WIDTH: 14 MM
BORE TYPE: STRAIGHT
ROW: SINGLE
STYLE: OPEN
CAGE MATERIAL: BEARING STEEL
RADIAL CLEARANCE: CN
DUTY TYPE: LIGHT
ROTATIONAL SPEED: 20000 RPM
DYNAMIC LOAD RATING: 13.5 KN
STANDARD: ISO 15
```

Every attribute has one value, and no word is repeated: TYPE never repeats the noun or modifier, and a material appears only in the material attribute. That consistency is what lets people and AI compare, search and match parts reliably. Together, the manufacturer, the part number and this structured description identify one specific item. The Q-UPID is its permanent key.

The Bigger Opportunity

Q-UPID is not intended to replace existing ERP numbers, manufacturer part numbers or established product identification standards.

It aims to provide a manufacturer-specific, specification-controlled identity layer that can connect them.

Its potential extends beyond data cleansing into procurement, inventory optimisation, industrial maintenance, engineering, digital commerce, traceability and AI-powered automation.

A simple identifier could become the foundation for a global part knowledge network.

The Vision

The internet transformed communication by allowing information to move between previously disconnected systems.

Q-UPID aspires to do something comparable for manufactured parts: make their identities consistently recognisable across organisational and technological boundaries.

Not by replacing the systems businesses already use.

By giving them a common part identity they can trust.

Q-UPID

One Part. One Code. Infinite Connections.

Know exactly what it is. Wherever it is.

A Material-Masters initiative.

Interested in Q-UPID?

If you are interested in Q-UPID, or in any other products or services from Material-Masters, drop us an enquiry and we will come back to you within two working days. Email **enquire@q-upid.com**.

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