



Canadian Case Date Coding Industry Protocol

- The Issue
- The Community
- The Recommendations and Timelines
- Next Steps





Issue

Inability to perform efficient stock rotation due to lack of inconsistent marking of human readable dates on cases.





Solution

Common approach needed for marking of date sensitive products.



Community Approach

Retailers
Manufacturers
Industry Associations



CANADIAN FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT GROCERS
FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE DES ÉPICIERS INDÉPENDANTS

FCPC | PACC



Canadian Council of Grocery Distributors
Conseil canadien des distributeurs en alimentation

cacds

Canadian Association of Chain Drug Stores
Association canadienne des chaînes de pharmacies





Important to Note



CCGD supports and signed the protocol on behalf of members.



CFIG supports and signed the protocol on behalf of members.

FCPC | PACC

FCPC supports and will sign when the initiative when North America aligns with the protocol.





Develop industry protocol to outline:

- 1) Date information on cases strategy
- 2) Implementation timelines



Phase I - Frozen Food and Dairy Case Products

Phase II - All remaining date sensitive case products

Out of Scope: Case products not requiring date sensitive identification information.





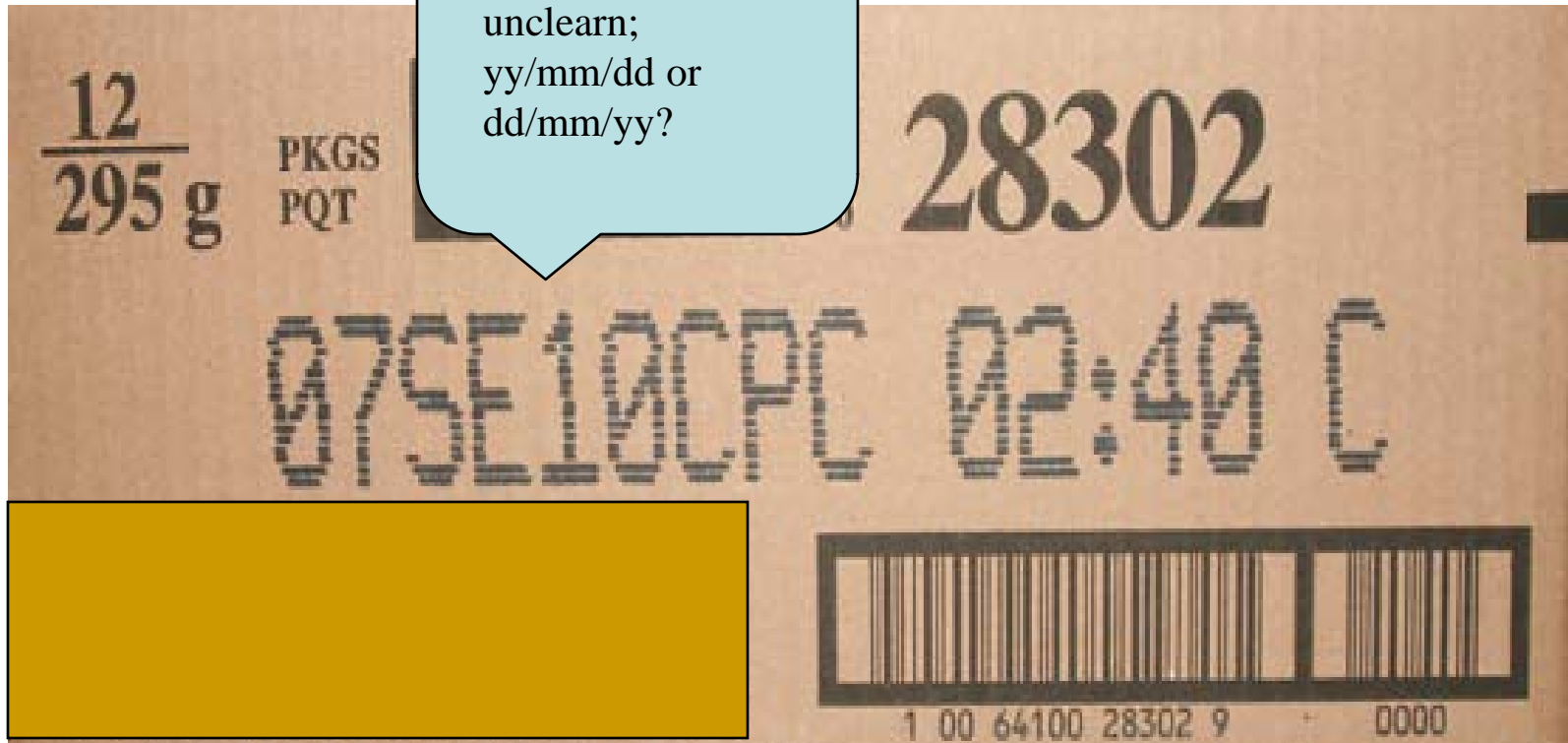
Case Date Coding: Background Information

- Majority of participating retailers capture case date code information within their systems.
- 50% are capturing case date codes via scanning.
- Dates currently captures:
 - Production;
 - Kill;
 - Expiry;
 - Best Before Date;
 - Receipt.
- All participating retailers using case date codes agree on the GS1-128 format.
- Most participants require case date code for all food categories.



Case Date Coding Examples

Format is
unclear;
yy/mm/dd or
dd/mm/yy?



Case Date Coding Examples

Format:
mm/dd/yy





Definitions

Best Before Date: Indicates the ideal consumption date or best effective use date of a product; a statement about quality.

Expiration Date: Determines the limit of consumption or use of a product; a statement about safety.

Production Date: Production or assembly date determined by the manufacturer.





Recommendations

1) Human Readable

ISO 8601 global standard:

YYYY = Four digit year

MM = Two digit month

DD = Two digit day

Example: December 8, 2008 = 2008-12-08





Human Readable Case Dates

Date format to be used for human readable dating:

YYYY-MM-DD = 2007-11-20





Recommendations

2) Human Readable

The printed data type precedes the date:

Best Before/Meilleur Avant

Expiration/Expiration

Production/Production

Example:

Best Before/Meilleur Avant

2008-12-08





Human Readable Case Dates

- Standardize the human readable date used on the case.
- Types of dates to be used:
 - Best Before
 - Expiration
 - Production
- Format of the human readable date:
 - Year = four digits
 - Month = two digits
 - Day = two digits
- The Global Standard using GS1 Data Type:
Best Before 2008-11-26





Phase 1: Frozen Food and Dairy Products

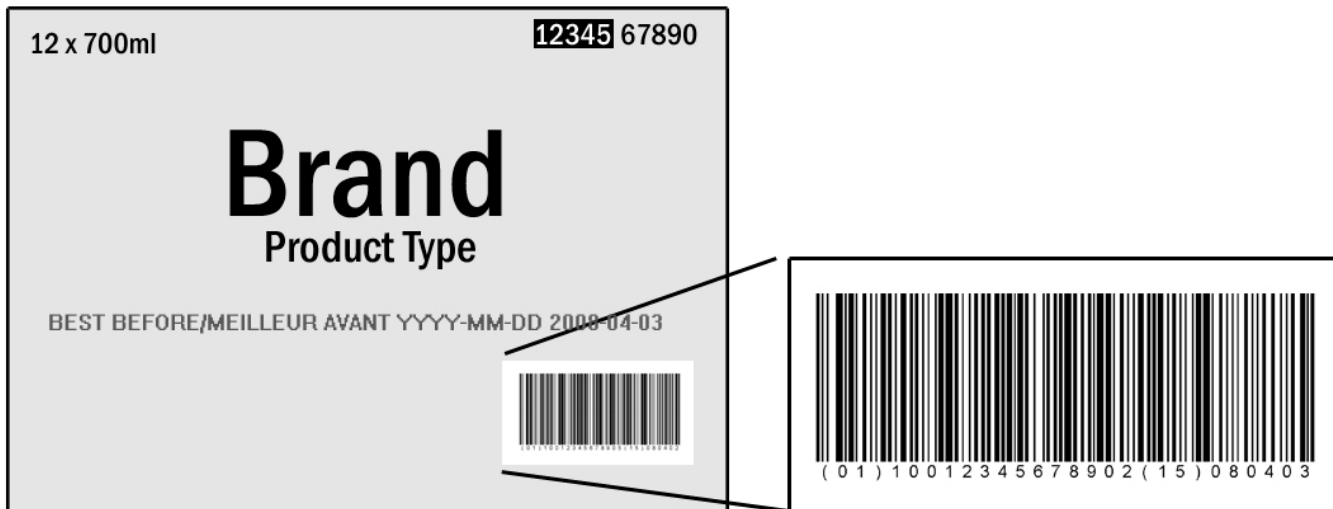
Human Readable - July 31, 2009





Phase 1: Frozen Foods and Dairy Products

Human Readable + Machine Readable - DEC 31, 2010





Phase 2: All Remaining Date Sensitive Products

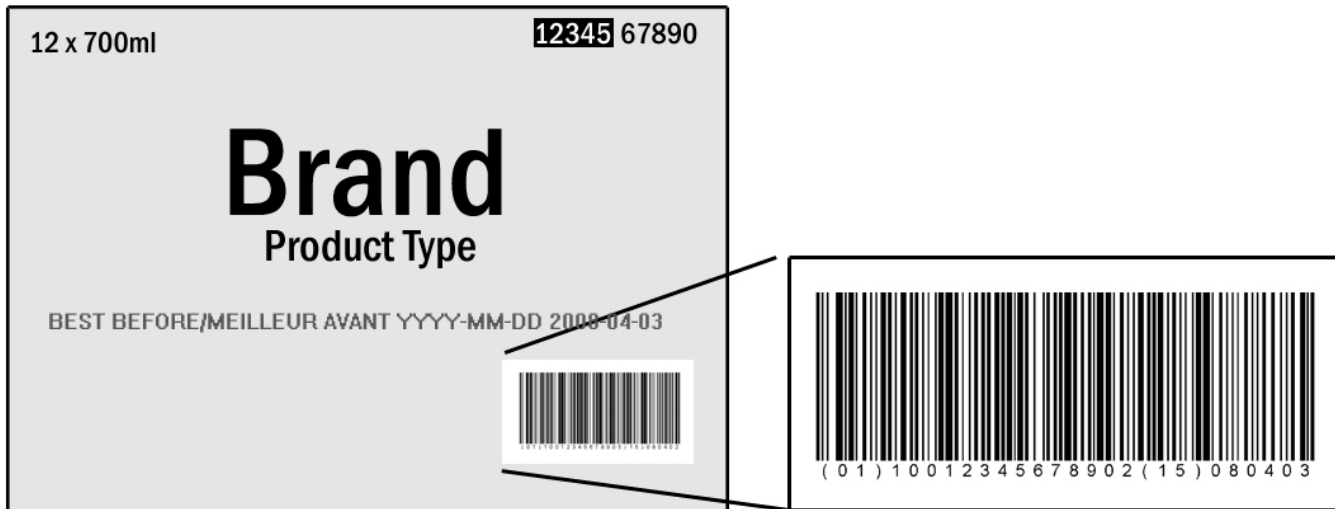
Human Readable - July 31, 2010





Phase 2: All Remaining Date Sensitive Products

Human Readable + Machine Readable - July 31, 2011





Case Date Bar Codes and Symbology

GS1-128 Case Code Symbology

The date encoded is in the form of YY/MM/DD





Date Encodation

The Application Identifier:

Best Before Date (15)	YY/MM/DD
Expiry Date (17)	YY/MM/DD
Production Date (11)	YY/MM/DD





Summary





Important Note

This protocol applies to cases and NOT consumer items.

If the case is a consumer item, government regulations may supersede these recommendations.





Phase 1: Frozen Foods and Dairy Products

Human Readable Date Coding

- 1) Trading partners start shipping and receiving no later than July 31, 2009.
- 2) Manufacturers cases are marked with either the Best Before, Expiration, or Production date in standardized human readable format.
- 3) Existing use of SCC-14 case codes with ITF will continue.





Phase 1: Frozen Foods and Dairy Products

Human and Machine Readable Date Coding

- (1) Trading partners start shipping and receiving no later than December 31, 2010.
- (2) Manufacturers' cases are date marked with marked with Best Before (AI=15), Expiration (AI=17), or Production (AI=11) in standardized human readable format and encoded in GS1-128 symbology.





Phase 2: All Remaining Date Sensitive Products

Human Readable Date Coding

- (1) Trading partners start shipping and receiving no later than July 31, 2010.
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Phase 2: All Remaining Date Sensitive Products

Human and Machine Readable Date Coding

- (1) Trading partners start shipping and receiving no later than July 31, 2011.
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Next Steps

Step 1: Read the Industry Protocol, available on the GS1 Canada website at <http://www.gs1ca.org>.

Step 2: If you require technical specifications on GS1-128 symbology, refer to the GS1 General Specifications on the GS1 Canada website at <http://www.gs1ca.org>.

Step 3: If you are a manufacturer, consult with your packaging partners or third party printing company.

Step 4: If you are a retailer, educate your staff in distribution centres and/or warehouses on what to expect.





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