



Australian Red Meat Industry

Technical Fact Sheet - Pallets Labels

The information following is a reference to meet the minimum requirement for pallet labelling. This application is supported and complimented by Application Identifiers and the GS1-128 (formerly known as UCC/EAN-128) Symbology. These are important components of the logistics label and apply to all of the specifications relating to the logistics label.

The purpose of the GS1 Logistics label provides information about the unit to which it is fixed. The core information on the label should be represented both in bar code and human readable form. There may be other information, which is represented in human readable form only.

This GS1 Logistics Label can be applied to a single item, or a grouping of several items made up to facilitate the operation of handling, storing and shipping. This can be a carton, a pallet, a container or any other similar type of packaging created for the purpose of handling, storing or shipping.

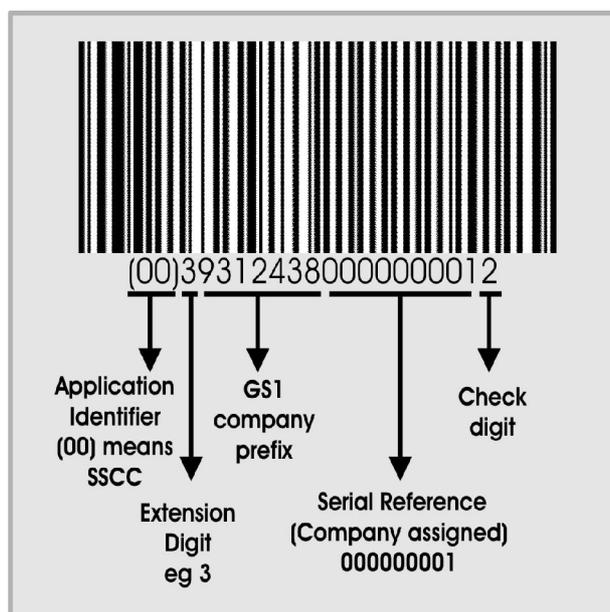
Note: Trading partners may request additional information in a separate bar code above the SSCC. Please ensure that you consult your trading partners.



Allocating an SSCC

The SSCC is a unique, non-significant, eighteen-digit number, which is assigned by the company constructing the logistic unit. It remains the same for the life of the logistic unit. The SSCC is encoded in a GS1-128 Bar Code Symbol, and is identified by the Application Identifier (00).

When assigning an SSCC, an individual SSCC number must not be reallocated within one year of the shipment date from the SSCC assignor to a trading partner.



The Application Identifier (AI) identifies the number that follows as an SSCC.

The Extension Digit Any number between 0-9 is used to increase the capacity of the Serial Reference within the SSCC. It is assigned by the company that constructs the SSCC.

The GS1 Company Prefix, either nine, eight or seven digits in length, should belong to the company originating the logistic unit, which is not always the brand owner. It makes the SSCC unique worldwide, but does not identify the origin of the unit.

The Serial Reference, either seven, eight or nine digits in length, is structured at the discretion of the company responsible for its assignment to uniquely identify each transport package. The method used to allocate the Serial Reference is at the discretion of the company bar coding the unit.

The Check Digit is mathematically calculated and ensures the whole number is correct. Correct calculation is essential for successful scanning of the bar code symbol.

Labelling the Logistic Unit

The organisation responsible for the printing and application of the label determines the content format and the dimensions of the label. However, the SSCC is the minimum requirement in the logistics label. Any other information over and above the SSCC should comply with the specification of this section and with the proper use of AIs.

Label Layout

For each label applied to the logistic unit, the top section contains free format information, the middle section contains text information and the Human Readable Interpretation of the bar code symbol(s), and the lowest section contains the bar code symbols. In all cases the SSCC is placed in the lowest portion of the label.

Bar Code Symbol Specifications

The GS1-128 (previously UCC/EAN-128) Bar Code Symbol is used for GS1 Logistics Labels.

Magnification

The magnification range for the GS1-128 Bar Code Symbol containing the SSCC is 48.7% to 92.5%.

The magnification range for bar code symbols on the logistics label that do not contain the SSCC is 25% - 100%. However if a magnification factor of less than 48.7% is used it is likely that the reading distance will be reduced.

For all symbols selecting a magnification factor at the higher end of the permissible range will always enhance the scanning reliability.

Height of Bars

The minimum bar height for the GS1-128 Bar Code Symbol containing the SSCC is 32mm. For other bar code symbols on the logistics label a minimum height of 27mm is acceptable based on historic specifications, but a migration to 32mm should be made.

Human Readable Interpretation

To facilitate key entry Application Identifiers should be set apart from the data by the use of brackets. The brackets are strictly for the Human Readable Interpretation and must not be encoded in the bar code symbol.

Label Location

Whilst the absolute minimum requirement for logistic units is one logistics label, for efficiency of scanning it is strongly recommended that at least two sides of the item be bar coded with the same data.

Further Information

For further technical information please refer to the **GS1 Australia User Manual - Numbering and Bar Coding** by visiting the information library at www.gs1au.org or contact GS1 Australia on 1300 366 033.