



# Introduction to the ISBT 128 Labelling Standard for Blood Components



## What is ISBT 128?

“An international standard for the transfer of information associated with tissue transplantation, cellular therapy and blood transfusion.

It provides for a globally unique donation numbering system, internationally standardized product definitions and standard data structures for bar coding and electronic data interchange.”

## ISBT 128 Technology Standard

- Much more than a new label layout
- Provides standard information and layout for blood component labels
- Defines data structure for information appearing on labels
- Defines data identifiers for bar codes used in blood component labelling & data transfer
- Defines technical details for the bar code
- Technical Specifications document available on ICCBBA website

## ISBT 128 Donation Number

- 13 Digit ISBT 128 Donation Number provides unique identification of blood products world wide for a 100 year period
- Eliminates need to re-number units of blood
- Supports centralized donor testing

## ISBT 128 Donation Number

C0500 07 123456 21 Q

- 13 Digit Donation Number
  - Facility identification code (global)
  - Year indicator (won't repeat for 100 years)
  - Sequential number (999,999/facility/year)
- Additional elements – not part of DN
  - Flag characters
  - Manual entry check character

## Donation Number – Flag Characters

- Flag characters are NOT part of the Donation Number
- Are used for process control
- Will NOT be the same on component label as on label applied at collection or what is printed on packing slips
- Are encoded in the bar code and printed on labels and reports

# ISBT 128 Standard Label

- ISBT 128 blood product label is divided into four quadrants
- Regardless of site of collection globally, the bar codes should be placed in same relative positions on product label
- The ISBT 128 Standard defines the placement of the following bar codes:
  - Donation Identification Number
  - ABO/Rh Blood Group
  - Product Code
  - Collection Date
  - Special Testing
- The Canadian Blood Services label design is not finalized and the label will not be exactly as shown in the following diagrams

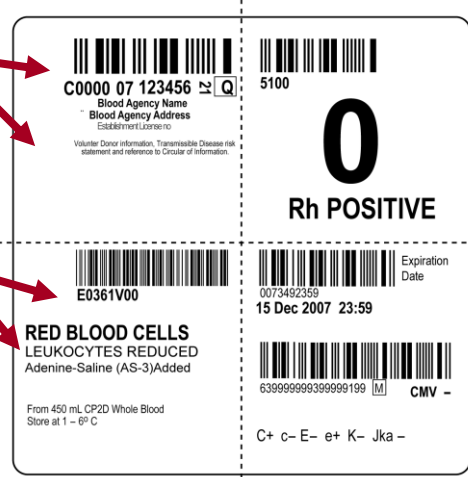
## Standard ISBT 128 End Label Format

### Unique Donation Number & Static Text

- 13 digit unique Donation Number (plus flag & manual check characters)
- Blood centre name, address, licence number
- Static legal text

### Product Code & Description

- Includes donation type (e.g. autologous, directed)
- Includes divisions (e.g. for pediatric use)
- Includes modifier and attribute information (e.g. washed, irradiated)



# Standard ISBT 128 End Label Format

The diagram shows a standard ISBT 128 end label with the following fields and callouts:

- Blood Group:** Callouts point to the large 'O' and 'Rh POSITIVE' text.
- Expiry Date:** Callout points to the 'Expiration Date' field showing '15 Dec 2007 23:59'.
- Special Testing/ Characteristics (Optional):** Callout points to the 'CMV -' and 'C+ c- E- e+ K- Jka -' fields.

Other fields on the label include: C0000 07 123456, Blood Agency Name, Blood Agency Address, Establishment License No., 5100, E0361V00, RED BLOOD CELLS, LEUKOCYTES REDUCED, Adenine-Saline (AS-3)Added, From 450 mL CP2D Whole Blood, Store at 1 - 6° C, and 639999999399999199 [M].

## ISBT 128 Implementation at Canadian Blood Services

- Canadian Blood Services plans to implement ISBT 128 by May 2009
- Will require changes to Canadian Blood Services blood management system (PROGESA)
- Many hospitals may also be required to update their systems
- Will require changes to SOPs, forms and labels
- Implementation timelines announced April 9, 2008 to allow hospitals adequate notice for successful implementation

## Extended ISBT 128 Label

- Canadian Blood Services plans to use an extended ISBT 128 label for a transition period to allow hospital systems time to become ISBT 128 compliant
- Duration of transition period has not yet been determined
- Extended portion of label has critical information (Donation Number, Product Code, Blood Group, Facility Code, Expiration) in Codabar format
- Similar format to that implemented by Héma-Québec (refer to CL #2007-24)

## Impact on Hospitals – Things to Consider

- Project planning and communication
- Work instruction and form revision
- Training of Transfusion Service and Clinical Staff
  - Anyone who handles blood components need training to the changes to the label
- Software preparation & validation
  - Version upgrade may be required
- Hardware requirements – bar code scanners, printers
- Impact on other systems
  - Medical Records, report generating systems
- Registration with ICCBBA
  - Information available at [www.iccbba.org](http://www.iccbba.org)

## Communication is Key!

- Communication is key to a successful ISBT 128 Implementation
  - Lab staff
  - Systems administrators
  - Logistics staff
  - Nursing staff
  - Physicians
  - Patient records office
  - Hospital education office
  - Senior management
  - Outside agencies

## Canadian Blood Services Communications Tools

- Customer Letters
  - CL #2008-06 issued to provide Canadian Blood Services planned implementation date
  - Additional letters will be issued when significant events are planned
- Consultation with Hospital Liaison Specialists
- Presentations

# Canadian Blood Services Communications Tools

- Internet

- Information and links to be posted on [transfusionmedicine.ca](http://transfusionmedicine.ca)
- Sample Implementation Readiness Checklist
- Information Powerpoint presentations
- Timelines
- Sample labels
- Feedback tool for questions – [isbt128@blood.ca](mailto:isbt128@blood.ca)
- Database of frequently asked questions

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2008-06-23

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AND VITALITY WITH  
SOMEONE IN NEED



**For more information on ISBT 128  
implementation at Canadian  
Blood Services:  
[www.transfusionmedicine.ca](http://www.transfusionmedicine.ca)**

