



Canadian Blood Services  
Société canadienne du sang

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www.blood.ca www.sang.ca

## Important Information Regarding ISBT 128 Implementation

### Customer Letter #2009-08

2009-03-26

Dear Colleague:

This letter pertains to:

### ISBT 128 Labelling Standard Implementation at Canadian Blood Services

#### At a Glance:

- What?** Canadian Blood Services is planning to implement ISBT 128 May 31, 2009.
- When?** Beginning June 1, 2009, all donations collected on or after this date will be labelled using the ISBT 128 labelling standard.
- Who?** Hospital and transfusion services staff.
- Why?** ISBT 128 is an international standard for the labelling of blood components with the objective of achieving international consistency in the information provided on component end labels and the placement of such information.
- Action!** Updates required for computer systems.

#### Full Story:

Further to Customer Letter CL 2008-06 informing hospitals that Canadian Blood Services is planning to implement ISBT 128 across Canada in May 2009, Canadian Blood Services is pleased to announce that subject to Health Canada approval, beginning June 1, 2009 all donations collected on or after this date will be labelled using the ISBT 128 labelling standard.

In November, 2008, hospitals were provided with ISBT 128 product codes and label text along with sample component labels, to assist in preparing for the ISBT 128 implementation. When ISBT 128 is implemented, Canadian Blood Services will label components using an extended ISBT label to allow time for hospitals to transition their laboratory software to the new ISBT 128 labelling standard.

Information included in this Customer Letter will further assist hospitals in preparing for the upcoming ISBT 128 implementation.

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### ISBT 128 Implementation Date

Subject to approval by Health Canada, Canadian Blood Services will implement ISBT 128 at all sites during the weekend of May 30-31, 2009. Confirmation of go-live will be provided in a customer letter on May 18, 2009.

Blood collected on or after June 1, 2009 will be labelled using the ISBT 128 labelling standard. All components collected prior to this date will be labelled with the current component label and Codabar barcodes. Hospitals are reminded that their Laboratory Information System (once ISBT 128 ready) will need to be able to receive components labelled with the Codabar label as well as the ISBT 128 label. Since some Codabar labelled components will not expire for some time after the implementation of ISBT 128 (e.g. 12 months for frozen plasma, 10 years for frozen/deglycerolized red blood cells), hospital systems will need to be able to manage the dual inventory for an extended period.

### Extended Label

When ISBT 128 is implemented, Canadian Blood Services will label components using an extended ISBT label. The intent of the extended label is to provide hospitals sufficient bar code information in Codabar format as an interim measure while hospitals finalize information system upgrades and implementations enabling them to benefit from the use of the ISBT 128 label.

Due to the limited size of the extended label, it was not possible to duplicate all functionality available on the **current** Codabar label. The most significant impact being the change to the start and stop characters on the 4 digit site/year bar code. The start and stop characters were aligned to this change, as follows:

- Site/year identifier: a/a
- Donation number: d/d

Due to insufficient space to align these barcodes side by side the possibility of a concatenated scanner read was also removed.

We continue to encourage all hospitals that are also bound by the Codabar duplicate number problem to adopt the ISBT 128 label standards as soon as possible, as the ISBT 128 donation number format eliminates the duplicate donation number issue. There are many other benefits associated with the ISBT 128 standards including:

- more information available in barcode and eye readable format;
- electronic controls within each barcode; and
- more robust barcode symbology resulting in less scanner misreads.

**Important Reminder:** As discussed in Customer Letter CL 2008-28, all hospitals that will be taking advantage of the extended ISBT 128 component label, **must update their computer systems by May 29, 2009** to reflect CBS' new Codabar product codes.

The Codabar product code that will appear on the extended portion of the ISBT 128 component label does **not** correspond to the Codabar component codes in use today. The current Codabar component codes (CL #2008-28, Attachment 1) were provided for mapping purposes only. Hospitals, whose information systems will not be ISBT 128 ready at the time Canadian Blood Services implements, **will need to add the Extended Label Codabar Codes to their tables.** The ISBT 128 Product Codes and Label Text are available on transfusionmedicine.ca in both MS Word and MS Excel formats.

### Hospitals Without Computer Systems

Hospitals without computer systems must begin using the 13 character ISBT 128 donation number, plus manual check character, at the time that Canadian Blood Services implements ISBT 128. This will ensure traceability of donations from donors to recipients. **The seven digit donation number from the extended portion of the label must not be used.** Please refer to Attachment 1 for further information on the ISBT 128 donation number.

### Component Recall/Withdrawal

The donation number information that Canadian Blood Services will provide on Form 1000103659, *Notification of Component Recall/Withdrawal* when recalling/withdrawing ISBT 128 labelled components, while using the extended ISBT 128 label, is as follows:

Donation Number:

- ISBT 128 format comprised of:
  - 13 character ISBT 128 donation number;
  - 2 flag characters - (flag characters provided by Canadian Blood Services on this form, will not match flag characters on the blood component end label, but will be included as placeholders only – flag characters are not part of the donation number and are not required for identification purposes);
  - 1 manual check character;

and
- Codabar 11 digit donation number format comprised of:
  - site/year identifier – (the last two digits of the collection facility and the two digit year);
  - 7 digit donation number – (the six digit sequence number and the check digit).

For example, for ISBT Donation Number C0521 09 283606 00 Y the following will be recorded for the donation number:

- C05210928360600Y / 2109 5 283606

### Notification to Canadian Blood Services

When reporting to Canadian Blood Services, hospitals will need to provide the 13 character ISBT 128 donation number and the manual check character. Computerized facilities using the interim extended label may provide the Codabar 11 digit donation number format comprised of the site/year identifier and the 7 digit donation number.

### Correction to Labels Issued with CL 2008-28

It has come to our attention that 2 of the sample labels issued with Customer Letter CL #2008-28 contain errors:

- The Deglycerolized Red Blood Cell label (E4519V00 Attachment 2-3) shows an incorrect expiry date.
- The Cryoprecipitate label (E6095V00 Attachment 2-8) erroneously shows both ABO and Rh. This label should show ABO only. With ISBT 128 implementation all plasma for transfusion will be labelled with ABO only.

Revised sample labels are included in this Customer Letter (Attachment 2) and are posted on transfusionmedicine.ca. We apologize for any confusion or inconvenience.

### Facility Codes

An updated list of Canadian Blood Services facility codes is attached (Attachment 3) and has been posted on transfusionmedicine.ca. This list includes all of the facility codes currently used by Canadian Blood Services.

### Blood Group Codes

In response to requests from hospitals, a table of the ISBT 128 blood group codes that will be used by Canadian Blood Services has been prepared (Attachment 4) and is posted on transfusionmedicine.ca.

As shown on the label samples issued with CL#2008-28, the ISBT 128 labels of plasma components (including Cryoprecipitate) will show ABO only, in both eye readable and bar code format. Please note that both ABO and Rh will continue to be displayed in both eye readable and Codabar format on the extended portion of the label.

### Packing Slip

When components are issued, both Codabar (collected prior to June 1, 2009) and ISBT 128 labelled components may be issued to hospitals on the same packing slip. An example of a packing slip is attached (Attachment 5) and posted on transfusionmedicine.ca.

Please note that the process control flag characters printed on the packing slip will be "00" and will not match the process control flag characters on the blood component end label ("21" or "22") or the donation number label applied at the time the unit is collected ("20").

**Note:** For facilities receiving blood from Canadian Blood Services Diagnostic Services (**Alberta and Manitoba**) the process control flag characters on the packing slip will be "20". See sample of Patient Services Packing slip (attachment 6).

Also, as previously communicated in Customer Letter CL 2008-28, it is important to note that the packing slip (issue voucher) will **NOT** show the Extended Label Codabar Component Code or the Codabar donation number for donations collected after ISBT 128 implementation at Canadian Blood Services. The ISBT 128 Donation Number and ISBT 128 Product Code will appear on the packing slip for these components.

**Note:** For facilities receiving blood from Diagnostic Services at Canadian Blood Services (**Alberta and Manitoba**) the Extended Label Codabar Component Code will appear on the packing slip.

### Supporting Implementation Materials

Canadian Blood Services will be providing hospitals with communications items to support the implementation of ISBT 128. These materials include:

- posters;
- pocket cards;
- one-page fact sheets; and
- before and after label examples.

You will receive these items via your Hospital Liaison Specialist. Some of these materials are also available for download and printing from [transfusionmedicine.ca](http://transfusionmedicine.ca). A booklet of scannable sample labels is also available by request through your Canadian Blood Services HLS Representative.

### Benefits to Hospital Customers

As a reminder, here are a few of the key items that hospital customers will benefit from as a result of the implementation of the ISBT 128 standard at Canadian Blood Services:

- Unique numbering of all blood components - eliminates issue of donation numbers which repeat over a specified time period due to the limitations of the donation number sequence.
- Code 128 barcode symbology which is more robust and offers more data control than the current Codabar barcode symbology.

### Further information about ISBT 128

Hospitals wanting additional, more detailed information on ISBT 128 can access the website of The International Council for Commonality in Blood Banking Automation (ICCBBA), Inc. at [www.iccbba.org](http://www.iccbba.org). Computerized facilities should consider registration and/or licensing with ICCBBA.

Canadian Blood Services will continue to share information and implementation plans with hospitals in a timely manner. Information regarding the ISBT 128 implementation at Canadian Blood Services has been posted to the Canadian Blood Services Transfusion Medicine web site at [www.transfusionmedicine.ca](http://www.transfusionmedicine.ca).

If you have any additional questions regarding these documents, updates to your hospital Laboratory Information System or the ISBT 128 implementation, please do not hesitate to contact your local Canadian Blood Services Hospital Liaison Specialist.

### **Attachments:**

1. ISBT 128 Donation Number
2. Revised Sample Labels
3. Updated Canadian Blood Services Facility Codes
4. Blood Group Codes
5. Packing Slip Example
6. Patient Services Packing Slip Example

Sincerely,

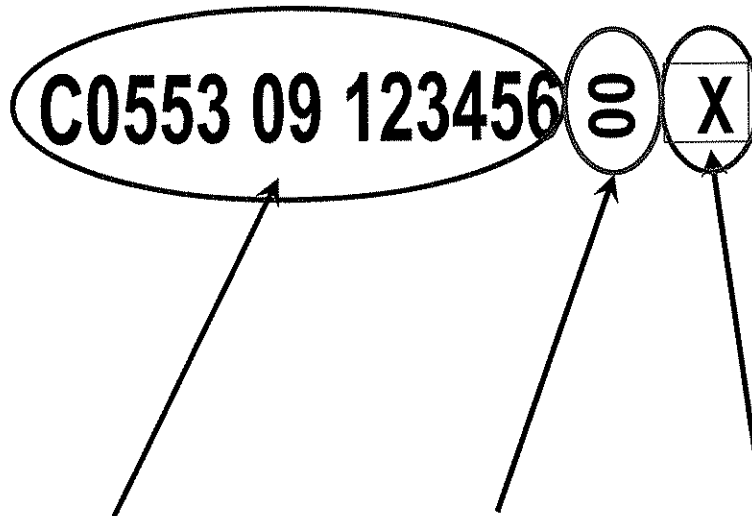


Ian Mumford  
Chief Operating Officer

Encl.



## ISBT 128 Donation Number



### 13 Character ISBT 128 Donation Number

- The 13 character ISBT 128 uniquely identifies the donation
- All 13 characters must be recorded for traceability of the donation
- In addition to the 13 digit ISBT 128 donation number, the manual check character should be recorded when manually transcribing the donation number

### Process Control Flag Characters

- The 2 digit process control flag characters are used by Canadian Blood Services.
- The flag characters are not part of the donation number

### Manual Check Character

- The manual check character is required when a donation number is manually entered into a computer system
- Canadian Blood Services needs to receive the manual check character whenever a hospital is reporting or inquiring about a donation



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CL# 2009-08

Attachment 2

  
C0580 08 901126 N L 0600

Volume donor. This product may transmit infectious agents. See Chapter of information for indications, contraindications, cautions and methods of infusion. Demeurer à l'échelle. Ce produit peut transmettre des agents infectieux. Voir le Chapitre d'information pour les indications, les contre-indications, les mises en garde et les méthodes de perfusion.

Collected on  
Prélevé le   
0083121437  
07 NOV 2008 14:37

  
E4519V00

DEGLYCEROLIZED/DÉGLYCÉROLÉ  
RED BLOOD CELLS  
CULOT GLOBULAIRE  
LEUCOCYTES REDUCED/PART. DÉLEUCOCYTÉ

Volume: 358 mL  
Store at/Conserver à 1 - 6°C

 04519  
Comp Code  
Code Produit  
8068  
A Rh NEGATIVE  
 060

 6901126  
Donation Number  
Numéro du don  
8068  
Expires on  
Périmé le  
13 MAR 2009 14:36

  
0600

**A**  
**Rh NEGATIVE**

  
0090721436  
Expires on  
Périmé le  
13 MAR 2009 14:36

  
99999999999999999999

Volume: 10 mL  
From/De 480 mL CPD WB/ST  
Store at/Conserver à < or/ou = -18°C

 06095  
Comp Code  
Code Produit  
1008  
A Rh NEGATIVE  
 060

 2900597  
Donation Number  
Numéro du don  
1008  
Expires on  
Périmé le  
07 NOV 2009

  
C0510 08 900597 N 2 6600

Volume donor. This product may transmit infectious agents. See Chapter of information for indications, contraindications, cautions and methods of infusion. Demeur à l'échelle. Ce produit peut transmettre des agents infectieux. Voir le Chapitre d'information pour les indications, les contre-indications, les mises en garde et les méthodes de perfusion.

Collected on  
Prélevé le   
0083121641  
07 NOV 2008 16:41

  
E6095V00

CRYOPRECIPITATE  
CRYOPRÉCIPITÉ

Volume: 10 mL  
From/De 480 mL CPD WB/ST  
Store at/Conserver à < or/ou = -18°C

  
0093112359  
Expires on  
Périmé le  
07 NOV 2009 23:59

  
N0000  
No special ISBT 128 tests

**A**



## ISBT 128 Facility Codes

<b>Canadian Blood Services Site</b>	<b>ISBT 128 Facility Code</b>	<b>Codabar Site/Year Code* (Extended Label)</b>
B.C. & Yukon	C0510	10yy
Calgary	C0520	20yy
Edmonton	C0521	21yy
Saskatchewan	C0530	30yy
Winnipeg	C0540	40yy
Sudbury	C0550	50yy
London	C0551	51yy
Hamilton	C0552	52yy
Toronto	C0553	53yy
Ottawa	C0555	55yy
New Brunswick	C0570	70yy
Halifax Centre	C0580	80yy
Newfoundland & Labrador	C0590	90yy

\* yy = last 2 digits of year

<b>Héma-Québec Site</b>	<b>ISBT 128 Facility Code</b>	<b>Codabar Centre Code (Extended Label)</b>
Montréal	C0003	0560
Québec City	C0004	0561



Canadian Blood Services  
it's in you to give

### ISBT 128 Blood Group Codes

ABO and RhD Blood Groups	Codes Used in Canada				
	Default: Intended Use Not Specified	Directed (Dedicated/ Designated) Collection Use Only	For Autologous Use Only	For Autologous Use Only/ Biohazardous	Directed (Dedicated/ Designated) Collection/ Eligible for Crossover
O RhD negative	95	91	97	98	94
O RhD positive	51	47	53	54	50
A RhD negative	06	02	08	09	05
A RhD positive	62	58	64	65	61
B RhD negative	17	13	19	20	16
B RhD positive	73	69	75	76	72
AB RhD negative	28	24	30	31	27
AB RhD positive	84	80	86	87	83
0	55	P2	P8	P9	P5
A	66	A2	A8	A9	A5
B	77	B2	B8	B9	B5
AB	88	C2	C8	C9	C5
para-Bombay, RhD negative	D6	D2	D8	D9	D5
para-Bombay, RhD positive	E6	E2	E8	E9	E5
Bombay, RhD negative	G6	G2	G8	G9	G5
Bombay, RhD positive	H6	H2	H8	H9	H5

Extracted from:  
ISBT 128 Standard  
Technical Specification, Version 3.5.1  
Table 5: Data Structure 002: Blood Groups [ABO and RhD], Including Optional Type of Donation or Collection Information

Ottawa Centre, CBS  
 40 Concourse Gate,  
 Ottawa, ON,  
 K2E 8A6  
 (613) 560-7212

Packing Slip  
 Number 00959131

Page 1 of 1

Date and time : 16 OCT 2008 - 16:58  
 Purchase Order #:

Facility

SAINT JOHN REGIONAL HOSPITAL (700090)  
 Regional Health Authority 2,  
 400 University Avenue, Saint John, NB  
 E2L 4L2

AS-3 RBC LR (E0361V00)

Donation #	ABO	Expiry Date	Modifiers
C0003 08 101120 00E	O +	16 NOV 2008	
C0003 08 101121 00C	A +	16 NOV 2008	

AS-3 Red Blood Cells LR, Irradiated (05730)

Donation #	ABO	Expiry Date	Modifiers
0550 2 114050	AB+	21 OCT 2008	IRRADIATED

Total Distribution

Code	Description	O+	O-	A+	A-	B+	B-	AB+	AB-	Qty	Vol
E0361V00	AS-3 RBC LR	1		1						2	
05730	AS-3 Red Blood Cells LR, Irradi							1		1	291
0044	Irradiated									1	

Remarks : All components in this shipment have  
 been visually inspected and found  
 suitable at the time of distribution.

Packing Scheme #1  
 Whole Blood / Red Blood Cells  
 Ambient Temperature Below 0C

(Underlined Ag Confirmed this Donation)

Distributed by : T.Tracy

Received by \_\_\_\_\_

Edmonton Centre, CBS  
8249 114 Street,  
Edmonton, AB,  
T6G 2R8  
(780) 431-0777

Packing Slip  
Number 00952608

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Date and time : 06 OCT 2008 - 08:29  
Purchase Order #:

Facility

ALBERTA CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL - CALGARY (200020) 1820 Richmond Rd. S.W., Calgary, AB, T2T 5C7
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SAGM Red Blood Cells LR (04760)

Donation #	ABO	Expiry Date	Modifiers
0521 0 593828	A +	20 OCT 2008	

SAGM RBC LR (E6050V00)

Donation #	ABO	Expiry Date	Modifiers
C0521 08 900566 00Y	B +	17 NOV 2008	
C0521 08 900567 00W	O -	17 NOV 2008	

Total Distribution

Code	Description	O+	O-	A+	A-	B+	B-	AB+	AB-	Qty	Vol
04760	SAGM Red Blood Cells LR			1						1	265
E6050V00	SAGM RBC LR		1			1				2	528

Remarks :

Distributed by : R.Stevens

Received by \_\_\_\_\_