

Care of Supplies in Storage (COSIS) Priority Group (CPG)

Shelf-life (SL) Type I, Non- Extendible- CPG 3

This is the 4th article in the Series on CPGs. In this article, we will focus on the management of CPG 3.

The SL Type I, or CPG 3, are individual items of supply with a definite non-extendible period of SL. It important to understand that SL items are items of supply possessing deteriorative or unstable characteristics to the degree that a storage time period is assigned to ensure that it performs satisfactorily in service. DoD SL training is an integral part of successful SL management. Only trained personnel should manage SL items. SL should be clearly identified and separated from the other non-SL items.

To identify SL Type I items, look for the MIL-STD-129, Military Marking for Shipment and Storage, markings on the unit label to include either the manufactured (MFD) date, cured date, assembled date, or packed date (subsistence only), and the expiration (EXP) date. The dates are shown as the numeric month followed by the last two digits of the calendar year. For cured-dated items, the cured date and expiration date are expressed by the calendar quarter, followed by the last two digits of the calendar year, with the day of the quarter being the last day before expiration. For a one-year SL Type I item cured in October 2013, the label will display: "CURED DATE 3Q13 EXP DATE 3Q14". When two or more unit packs of the same item are consolidated within any intermediate or exterior containers and have different SL dates, the earliest dates are shown on those containers (see Image 1: Example of Consolidated SL Containers with Earliest SL Expiration Date Shown).

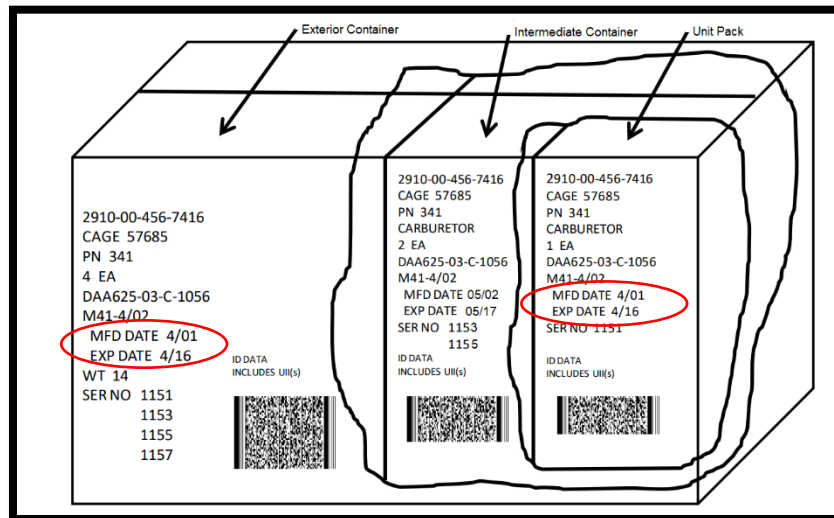
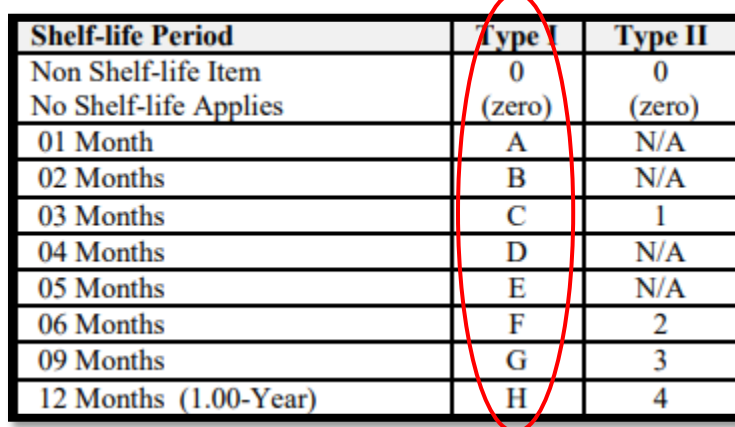


Image 1: Example of Consolidated SL Containers with Earliest SL Expiration Date Shown.

So, let's get managing CPG 3s...

1. First, run your unit's Inventory Location Report to identify and locate your CPG 3 items. CPG 3 items will be identified by the SL Type I Alpha code, in accordance with (IAW) DoD 4140.27, Vol 1, DoD Shelf-Life Management Program: Program Administration (see Image 2: SL Type I Alpha Code).



Shelf-life Period	Type I	Type II
Non Shelf-life Item No Shelf-life Applies	0 (zero)	0 (zero)
01 Month	A	N/A
02 Months	B	N/A
03 Months	C	1
04 Months	D	N/A
05 Months	E	N/A
06 Months	F	2
09 Months	G	3
12 Months (1.00-Year)	H	4

Image 2: SL Type I Alpha Code

2. Now that you ran your report and have filtered to CPG 3 items, you are ready to perform COSIS and inspect your CPG 3 items for remaining SL:

a. Examine the EXP date on the identification markings of the item's unit pack and validate the SL of the item.

b. Make sure the SL item is still properly packaged and in its original/required unit container. Ensure the unit pack is not opened, and carefully monitor the expiration dates. Remember, once these items expire, you cannot extend them. If the item has been taken out of its preserved unit pack, the service life of the item has begun and, if you are unsure of what to do next, please do one of the following:

- Contact the item manager.
- Send feedback in the Shelf-life Extension System.
- Downgrade the item to batch code "H" and begin SL disposal IAW local requirements and/or Army Sustainment Command (ASC) guidance for SL disposal if applicable.

c. Review the EXP date and downgrade the batch code according to the following criteria:

- If the date is within 90 days of expiration, then downgrade the item to batch code "B".
- If the date is within 30 days of expiration, then downgrade the item to batch code "C".
- If the expiration date has passed, then downgrade the item to batch code "H" and begin SL disposal IAW local requirements and/or ASC guidance for SL disposal, if applicable.

NOTE: Never open a SL item for inspection. Opening an item for inspection would compromise the SL if it's in a preserved unit pack causing the item's service life to begin or render the item

unserviceable. When inspecting SL items, make sure the unit container has not been compromised.

3. Proper SL management depends on proper storage and handling of CPG 3 items:

a. Always store CPG 3s by their Item Type Storage Code (ITSC); these codes can be found in DoDM 4100.39, Federal Logistics Information System (FLIS) Procedures Manual, Vol 10, Multiple Application References/Instructions/Tables and Grids, and are referred to in the Army regulations as Type of Storage (TOS) IAW AR 708-1, Logistics Management Data and Cataloging Procedures for Army Supplies And Equipment, and DA PAM 708-2, Cataloging and Supply Management Data Procedures for the Army Enterprise Material Master.

b. If no storage code exists, at the minimum, store SL items inside a general-purpose warehouse until you can contact the item's source of supply or Item Manager for the appropriate ITSC.

c. Store by national stock number with one lot/batch per location, or separate when comingled.

d. Always handle with care. Never staple a SL item's preservation bag as it will compromise the integrity of the unit pack and will no longer be issuable in a serviceable condition.

e. Always keep SL items away from water, moisture, extreme variation of temperatures, pests, sun, dust, etc.

4. Lastly, when selecting a CPG 3 for issuance or shipment:

Always:

a. Select utilizing first in, first out (FIFO) methodology.

b. Validate that the item has not expired and has the appropriate batch code based on the remaining SL as stated in paragraph 2.c.

c. Advise the customer if the item has a short SL.

Never issue an expired SL item unless you have prior consent from a SL Board member or a written SL waiver from your Army SL Administrator.

Additional COSIS guidance on all types of Army materiel is available in the Technical Manual No. 38-8145-709, COSIS for Army Materiel. This publication is available at <https://liw.logsa.army.mil/etmapp/>.

If you have any further questions on CPG 3, SL, or COSIS, please contact the ASC Packaging, Storage, and Containerization Center through their website at <https://www.pscc.army.mil/> or email them at usarmy.tyad.usamc.mbx.pt@army.mil.