



BUREAU OF STANDARDS JAMAICA

Making Standards Work For You...

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What is a Label?

Definition

A label is a slip of paper or other material which is fastened to a container or article, and on which is printed information about the product.

Note:

The label can be different from a package or one and the same .

Importance of a label

A label helps to advertise the product for the manufacturer /processor and gives the consumer information about the product necessary to make the best buy.

The label must be accurate , be true and reflect the true nature of the product.

Different Part of a Label

- Principal display panel or main panel
- Information panel

Principal display panel

The part of the package which is most likely to be displayed, presented, shown or examined by the customer. This part of the label must contain

- A. common name of the goods together with any brand name or registered trade name.
- B. The net contents of the package

Information Panel

Contain any other information about the product.

For example:

- 1 Name and address of the processor, manufacturer, packer, importer or distributor.
- 2 Country of origin
- 3 Listing of the ingredients that are contained in the product including additives , stabilizers , preservatives and whether natural /artificial flavours are added.
- 4 Date Mark(Expiration date, Best Before, etc)



Information Panel Cont'd

- 5 Storage Information
- 6 Precautionary Statement
- 7 Batch Code
- 8 Instructions for use
- 9 Nutritional Information
- 10 Health Claim

General Labelling of Products

Country of Origin

Can be stated as :-

“Product of” with the blank being filled in accordingly.

For example : Product of USA ,
Product of Canada , Product of China , etc

General Labelling of Products

Statement of Identity

A common or usual name of the commodity

For example : Green Peas , Baking Soda
Jam , Peanuts ,etc.

General Labelling of Products

Name and Address

Name and **Address** street address of the **registered** place of business of the manufacturer, packer, distributor, or importer

General Labelling of Products

Preceded by the phrase:

“manufactured by” , “packed by”
or distributed by” (as applicable)

Example :

Manufactured by Bureau of Standards
6 Winchester Road , Kingston 10

General Labelling of Products

If the product is **not manufactured** by the person whose name appears on the label-

the qualifying phrase should be:
manufactured for ...”

General Labelling of Products

- A batch code is a unique code used by the manufacturer to identify when the product was made.

Note: A manufacturer's batch code should be on label or package for traceability purpose.

General Labelling of Products

Net Content

Example: mass expressed as g , kg
 volume expressed as mL , L
 length expressed as mm ,cm

- Metric symbols are used only when preceded by digits
example: 15 kg

General Labelling of Products

Ingredients Listing

- Products intended for retail sale to consumers must declare the ingredients.
- should be listed in decreasing order of proportion by weight
- should be identified by the common or usual name, chemical name.

General Labelling of Products

Instructions for use

Where any risk to the safety or health of a consumer or user , or where any significant deterioration of the quality , performance , life , durability or other property of the goods may result if the goods are not properly stored , an instruction for use must be stated.



General Labelling of Products

**Official Language(s) is
a must !!!!**

General Labelling of Products

Warning/ Caution Statement

- Warnings and cautions should be part of the label wherever it is necessary and appropriate to prevent a health hazard that may be associated with the use of the product.

Warning – Advises you to be wary of something

Example: Avoid contact with eyes or content under pressure or do not consume if seal is torn.

Caution –Advises you to pay attention to safety

Example: Flammable or keep away from heat

Most labels should read : Keep out of the reach of children

General Labelling of Products

Date Marking/date of minimum durability

Products should have dates of minimum durability or expiry dates

Example: October 20,2006

General Labelling of Products

Storage Information

This information aids in extending the shelf life of the product as well as giving the consumer pointers on how to preserve the product.

Example : Keep refrigerated , Keep cool , store at room temperature , store above room temperature, etc



Who determines what information is present on a label?



- 1. The Manufacturer**
- 2. The Regulator of Standards/Food and Drug Administration**

Why are Labels important to consumers?

- Safeguarding their own consumer rights
- A form of contract between the manufacturer/supplier and consumer

Definition

Package

Any container wrapper , conforming band or card in , or on which any goods are enclosed for use in the delivery or display of that commodity to retail purchasers.

Example: see pictorial representation below.

Example of Different Packages



General Packaging Requirements

1. Biodegradable (any type used)
2. State the type of plastic used(if this is the packaging material used e.g. See next slide)
3. Suitable for its function (example water in a paper bag)
4. Dimensional requirements as in dangerous goods, etc
5. Testing requirement found in ASTM Standards, EU Standards, ISO 22715, etc



Plastic

Polyethylene Terephthalate

Fizzy drink and water bottles. Salad trays.



High Density Polyethylene

Milk bottles, bleach, cleaners and most shampoo bottles.



Polyvinyl Chloride

Pipes, fittings, window and door frames (rigid PVC). Thermal insulation (PVC foam) and automotive parts.



Website information for different countries as it relates to food and drug

European Union <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/browse/summaries.html>

USA <http://www.fda.gov/>

Canada http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/legislation/acts-lois/act-loi_reg-eng.php



Thank you for your attention
