

CHAPTER 603

INTERMODAL CONTAINER CODING AND MARKING

A. PURPOSE

This chapter provides uniform procedures for coding and marking DOD-owned intermodal containers. These procedures are mandatory for all DOD Components.

B. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. USTRANSCOM. Establish procedures, assign responsibilities, and maintain a single register for all DOD-owned intermodal ISO containers. SDDC is the USTRANSCOM GCM for containerization including coding and marking.
2. The DOD Components:
 - a. Request ISO serial numbers from SDDC/AIDPMO when purchasing new containers, when restenciling containers that are commercially marked but owned by the DOD, or when restenciling due to changes in ownership between services.
 - (1) Registering ISO numbers by SDDC/AIDPMO during the completion of the procurement process, and when activities request ISO numbers for re-stenciling.
 - (2) To request numbers for new containers or to register existing numbers, contact AIDPMO. AIDPMO can be contacted by phone at Commercial 570-615-9706, DSN: 795-9706; or via e-mail at aidpmo@conus.army.mil,
 - (3) Information required when requesting numbers includes the requisition, contract or delivery order number covering the containers, ISO asset type (4 digit code; a drop down list is provided, be sure to select the most appropriate code), National Stock Number, quantity, accountable owner DODAAC, DODAAC of location where the new containers will be delivered or used containers are currently, and the end delivery date of the containers. Note that when procuring modular ISO units such as TRICONS and QUADCONs, a different number will be assigned to each unit.
 - b. Any requested serial numbers that are not used must be reported to SDDC/AIDPMO for retirement.
 - c. Inspect new containers immediately upon receipt IAW Chapter 604. The initial CSC inspection of a new container is valid for five years. CSC reinspection and recertification is required at intervals not to exceed 30 months thereafter.
 - d. Ensure newly procured containers have registered DOD ISO numbers and a CSC safety approval plate, [Figure 603-2](#).
 - e. Inventory all ISO containers as directed by USTRANSCOM/SDDC.
 - f. Budget and fund for coding and marking of Component-owned containers.

C. MARKING PROCEDURES

1. General. These procedures apply to all DOD-owned ISO containers.
2. ISO Number:
 - a. Composition and Marking. The ISO number consists of 11 characters; a four-letter prefix (consisting of a three digit ownership code and a one digit equipment category code), followed by a six-digit serial number, and a check digit. See [Table 603-1](#) for examples. The stenciled prefix, serial number, and check digit letters and numbers will be not less than four

- inches high. Maximum gross and tare weight letters and numbers will be not less than two inches high. All characters will be of proportionate width and thickness and will be durable and of a contrasting color. The maximum gross and tare weight figures will be displayed in both kilograms and pounds, consisting of five and four characters respectively.
- b. Placement. The ISO number will be placed on the upper-right section of all four-container sides. The number will be horizontal, if possible. If construction of the container does not permit easy application of horizontal numbers on the sides, (such as Flatracks), the number may be placed on the top rail or may be placed vertically. The ISO number will also be placed at each end of the roof with the bottom of each character toward the associated end. See [Figure 603-1](#), [Figure 603-2](#), [Figure 603-3](#), [Figure 603-4](#), and [Figure 603-5](#) for pictorial layouts of ISO identification markings.
 - c. Prefixes. Currently assigned codes are listed in [Table 603-2](#). Newly procured containers will be assigned the owner code for the Service and the equipment category “U” (to enable the new containers to be recognized by commercial industry ITV systems). Existing containers using obsolete ownership codes must be changed to the new ownership codes by remarking with a new ISO number and must be changed, if the ownership code is incorrect, whenever containers are painted, restenciled, or equipped with ISO standard 10374 automatic equipment identification tags.

MIL-HDBK-138B

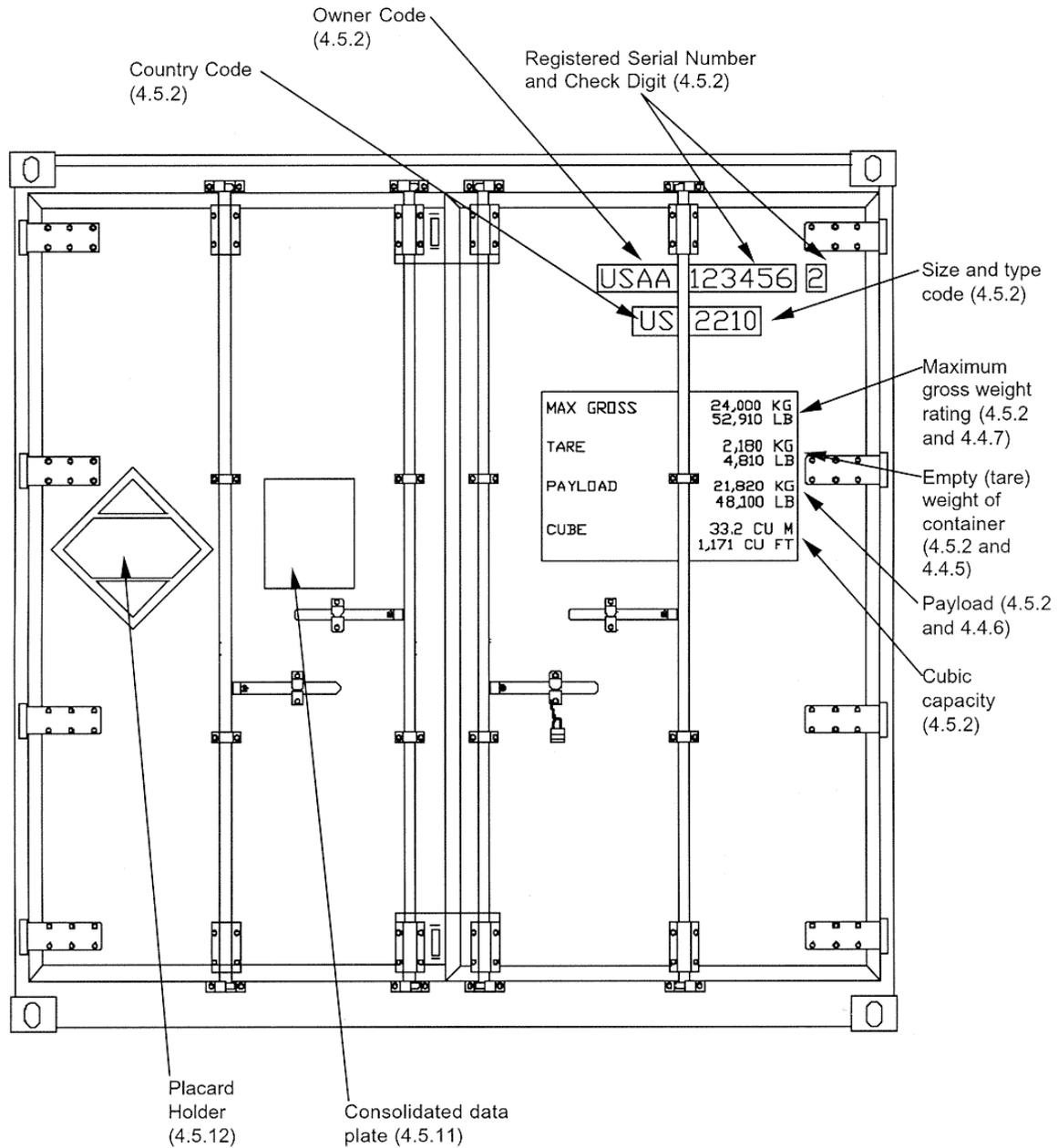
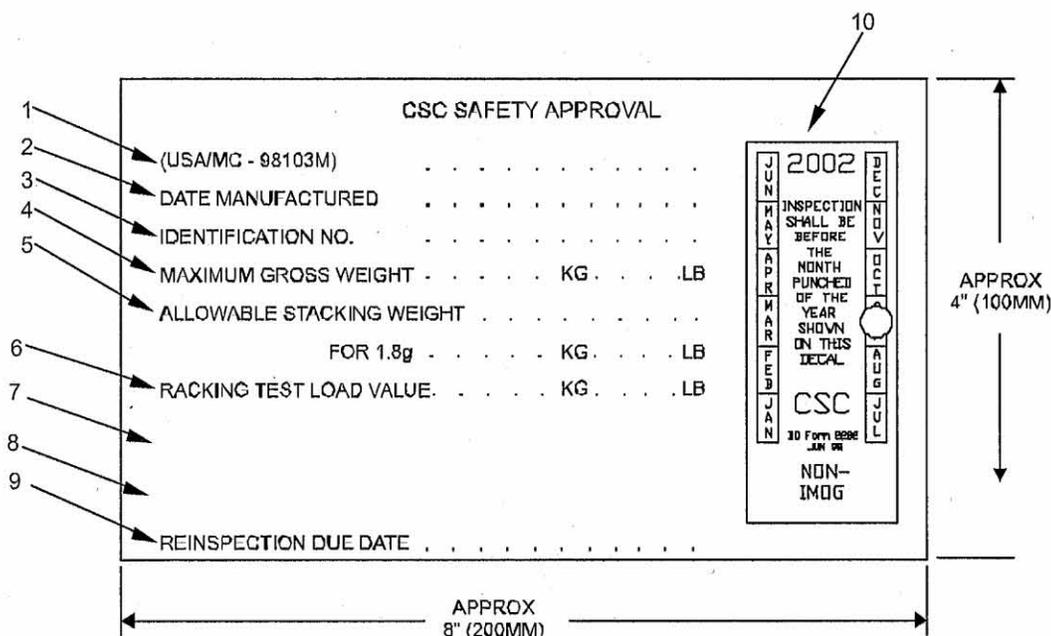


Figure 603-1. Typical Door Markings (from MIL-HDBK-138B)

MIL-HDBK-138B



REQUIRED LINES OF INFORMATION:

1. Alphanumeric reference code similar to example shown above indicating Country of approval and reference number for approval.
2. Date (month and year) of manufacture.
3. Manufacturer's identification number or the ISO identification number (i.e., owner code, serial number and check digit) assigned to the container.
4. Maximum gross weight rating (kilograms and pounds).
5. Allowable stacking weight (kilograms and pounds) container can support when subjected to 1.8 times the force of gravity.
6. Transverse racking test load value (kilograms and pounds).
7. End wall strength expressed in kilograms and pounds or as fraction of the permissible payload (P). This is only required to be marked on the CSC plate if end walls are designed to withstand a load of less than or greater than 0.4P.
8. Side wall strength expressed in kilograms and pounds or as fraction of the permissible payload (P). This is only required to be marked on the CSC plate if side walls are designed to withstand a load of less than or greater than 0.6P.
9. First re-inspection due date (month and year) for new container or DD Form 2282 decal indicating subsequent re-inspection due date (month and year).
10. Alternate location on CSC plate for application of DD Form 2282 decal.

Figure 603-2. Typical Format of CSC Safety Approval Plate

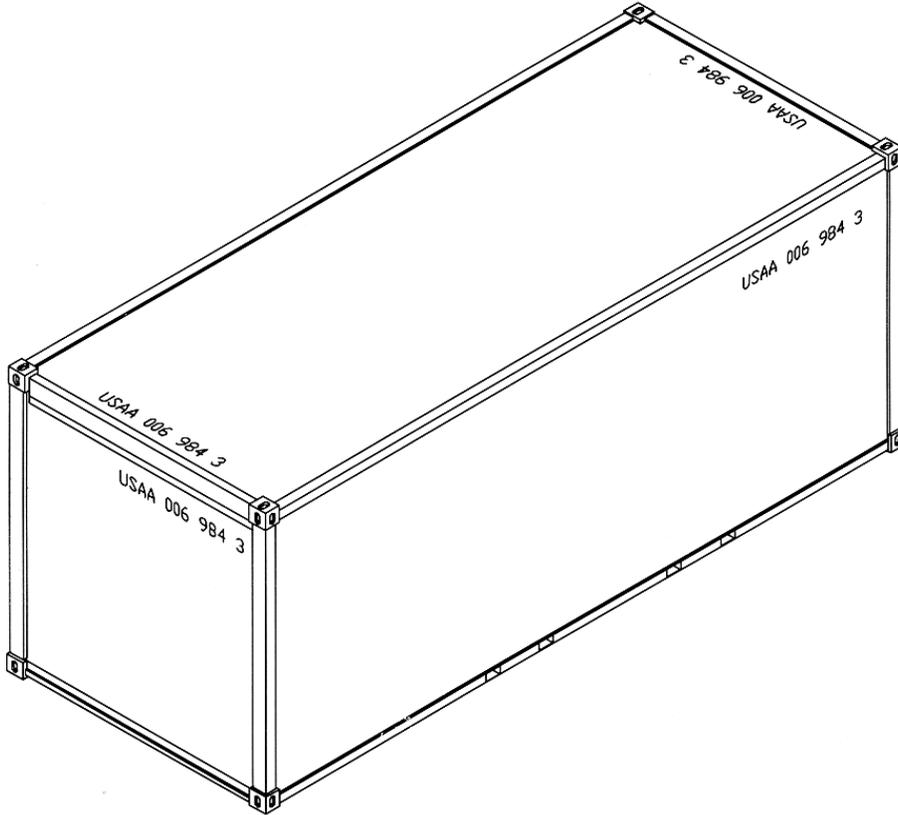


Figure 603-3. Typical Horizontal Layout of ISO Identification Markings

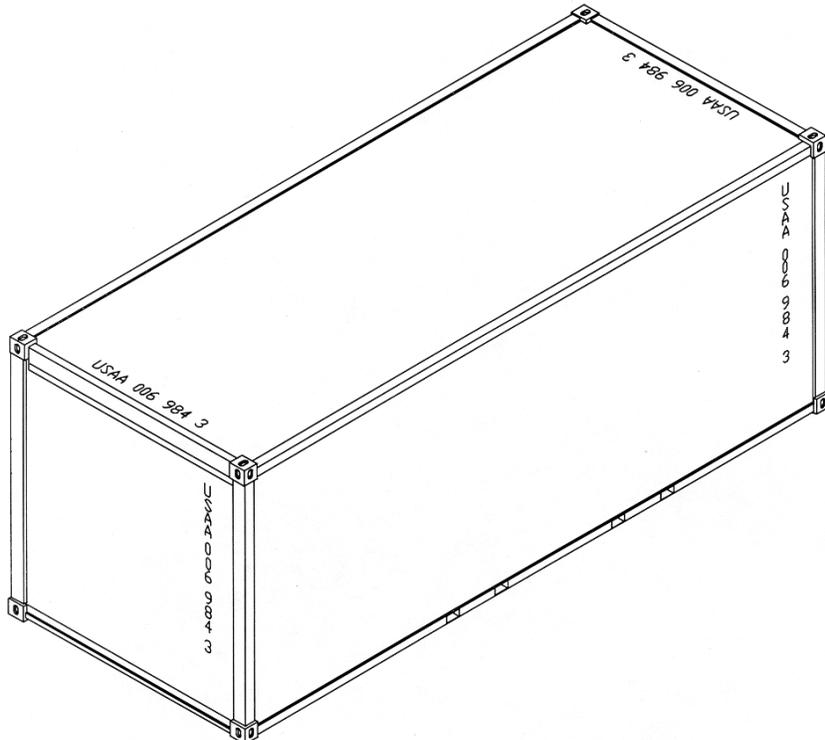


Figure 603-4. Typical Vertical Layout of ISO Identification Markings

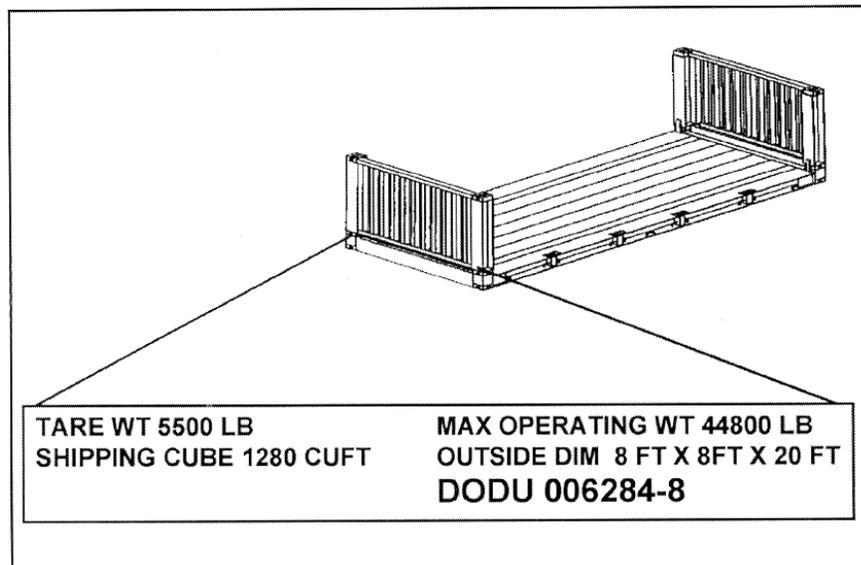


Figure 603-5. Typical Flatrack Markings

Table 603-1. Examples of ISO Number Composition

EXAMPLE ISO NUMBER	DESIGNATION
USAG 003209 0	Original general cargo container
USAG 060000 9	New general cargo container
USAA 005631 6	Original restraint container
USAR 000001 7	Refrigerated container

Table 603-2. ISO Ownership Codes Assigned to DOD Components and Associated Component Manager

OWNERSHIP CODE	COMPONENT
USAU	US Army
USNU	US Navy
USMU	US Marine Corps
USFU	US Air Force
USAA	US Army Ammunition/Ordnance (Retired)
USAG	US Army General Cargo (Retired)
USAR	US Army Refrigerated Vans (Retired)
USAF	US Army Flatrack (Retired)
USAH	US Army Hospital Vans (Retired)
USAP	Army Force Provider (Retired)
USNG	US Navy General Cargo (Retired)
USNR	US Navy Refrigerated Vans (Retired)
USSC/MHQQU	Military Sealift Command (Retired)
DODU	DOD Common-Use (Retired)