

User's Guide To Chemical Shelf-Life Management



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Product Center 4 manages pure chemicals, pesticides, and chemical specialties (Federal Supply Classes 6810, 6840, and 6850) and assigns shelf-life time periods for these commodities. As an active participant in DOD's initiatives in shelf-life management, Product Center 4 offers this brochure as a basic guide and information resource on shelf-life management issues.

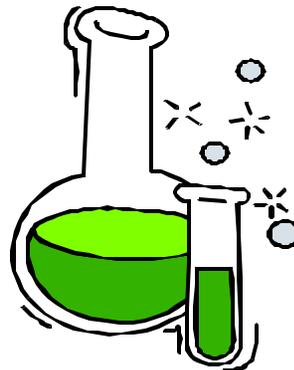
Shelf-Life Terms

Shelf Life : The total period of time beginning with the date of manufacture, cure, assembly, or pack that an item may remain in the combined wholesale (including manufacture) and retail storage system and still remain suitable for issue to the end user.

Shelf-Life Item: A supply item that possesses characteristics of inevitable deterioration or instability such that a storage time is assigned to ensure that it will perform satisfactorily in service.

Type I Shelf-Life Item: An item of supply with a definite non-extendible shelf-life time period that is supported by an evaluation of technical test data and/or actual experience with the item.

Type II Shelf-Life Item: An individual item of supply having an assigned shelf-life time period that may be extended after completion of inspection, test, or restoration action.



Shelf-Life Management for Pure Chemicals, Pesticides*, and Chemical Specialties*, Federal Supply Classes 6810, 6840, & 6850

*(Pesticides include: insecticides, rodenticides, and herbicides; Chemical Specialties include: Cleaning compounds, solvents, antifreeze, disinfectants, and desiccants)

Determining Shelf-Life Codes

- Check the DOD Federal Logistics Information System (FLIS) using the National Stock Number (NSN), Item Name Code (INC), or Item Name (IN) to determine the shelf-life codes (SLC). If FLIS is not accessible, use FedLog to check for the information (see *Websites* under *Points of Contact*).
- When a hazardous item is not a shelf-life item, it will be identified by a SLC of "0" (zero). Such a hazardous item may require special storage and handling according to DLAI 4145.11. If such a hazardous item is suspected to be sufficiently deteriorative, the SLC of 0 in the FLIS may be invalid and testing and/or special requirements may be specified.
- For discrepancies or questions concerning shelf-life codes, contact one of the DSCR Shelf-Life Management *Points of Contact*.

Guidelines

Inspection of Container for General Condition and Serviceability

- ◆ The containers should be clean, secure, free from leaks and excessive rust, distortion and/or other deterioration
- ◆ Labels should be legible and securely attached to the container. Labels should include:
NSN
Manufacturer and CAGE
Date of manufacture, expiration, or retest date
Contract, and Lot/Batch Number

Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)

- ◆ If needed, obtain an MSDS for the hazardous material (HM) from the Hazardous Materials Information Resource System (HMIRS) database. The HMIRS is available on the web at <http://www.dlis.dla.mil/hmirs/> (requires registration with DLIS), and on the Hazardous Material Control & Management Compact Disc Read-Out Memory (HMC&M CD-ROM) disc. Both allow product information search using NIIN, manufacturer, supplier, CAGE code, specification number, or part number. If the item is DLA-managed, contact HMIRS (see *Points of Contact*); if managed by one of the other services, contact your service's HMIRS Safety and Health Point of Contact (visit HMIRS website for Points of Contact). If the HM is purchased locally, contact your supplier or the manufacturer.

Laboratory Testing

Testing is an element of inspection that generally denotes the determination by technical means, of properties or elements of chemicals or other chemical products (hazardous or non-hazardous) or of their components. It also involves the application of established scientific principles and procedures. Laboratory testing is required for in-storage items nine months prior to the re-test date. The testing is performed to determine whether the item remains suitable for use by the end-user if extended for another cycle of its shelf-life.

Each Military Service furnishes guidelines for the size and number of samples needed for laboratory testing.

Shelf-Life Extension & Disposal

When Type I shelf-life items reach or exceed the expiration date, process such items for disposal. When Type II shelf-life items reach or exceed inspection/test-date, check the Quality Status List (QSL). The QSL contains extension information for Type II items that have been laboratory tested. This extension information is valid only if the stock to be extended is stored in accordance with DLAI 4145.11. The QSL is available online (see *Websites*) or contact the DSCR QSL Administrator (see *Points of Contact*).

Once shelf-life items are considered excess and disposal action is required, there should be no delay in processing such items to your DRMO. Contact your facility's environmental office to classify the hazardous material in order to turn-in to the DRMO. If assistance is needed for classification of the hazardous waste, contact Hazardous Technical Information Services in the *Points of Contact* listing that follows.

Points of Contact

Shelf-Life Program Administrator, DOD

Michael Pipan: DSN 427.1585; Comm. 703.767.1585

Shelf-Life QSL Administrator, DSCR

◆ Mary Ellen Carhart: DSN 695-5845; Comm. 804.279.5845

Shelf-Life Management, DSCR

◆ Berry Herbert: DSN 695.5173; Comm. 804.279.5173

Chemical Shelf-Life Subcommittee

- ◆ Chair, Muhammad Hanif: DSN 695.5610; Comm. 804.279.5610
- ◆ Co-Chair, Patti Wilson: DSN 695.4633; Comm. 804.279.4633

Websites

- ◆ <http://www.shelflife.hq.dla.mil>
- ◆ <https://today.dla.mil/-/3/shelflife>
- ◆ <http://www.dscr.dla.mil/htis/htis.htm>
- ◆ <http://www.dlis.dla.mil/hmirs/>

HMIRS, DSCR

- ◆ DSN 695.4371; Comm. 804.279.4371; Fax DSN 695.4149; Comm. 804.279.4149 (*MSDS requests, DLA-managed items*)

HTIS

- ◆ DSN 695.5168; Comm. 1.800.848.4847; 804.279.5168; Fax 804.279.4194

References

DOD 4140.27-M, Shelf-Life Management Manual, September 1997
DLAI 4145.11, Storage and Handling of Hazardous Materials, January 1999
DOD 4160.21-M, Defense Reutilization & Marketing Manual, August 1997