

TO: DSCP-FTRAC (B. Lowry/7773)

SUBJECT: ES05-144 (DSCP-SS-05-33598) Request for Specification Changes to D-2 Labeling of Overwrapped MRE Components for the following documents: QAPs for AA-20177C, Candy and Chocolate Confections; AA-20195C, Snacks; AA-20211A, Toaster Pastry; AA-20295B, Cookies packaged in a Flexible Pouch; AA-20298, Beef Snacks and PCR-C-0004A, Sports Bar.

1. Date received: 14 Oct 05

Date due: 24 Oct 05

Date replied: 10 Nov 05

2. References:

a. Memo from AMSRD-NSC-CF-F (MacDonald) to DSCP-HRAC (Lowry), dated 20 August 2004. SUBJECT: ES04-089 (DSCP-SS-04-05186), Embossing and Continuous Printing of MRE Component Labeling

b. Telecom discussion between C. Norton/Natick and B. Lowry/DSCP, 9 Nov 05, concerning this subject.

3. To provide background for this case, it is noted that in the ongoing efforts to both standardize and to broaden the requirements cited in the MRE component documents, ES04-089 20 Aug 04 (ref 2.a.) provided the following updated labeling requirements which were incorporated into MRE contracts and is being inserted into the component documents as they are revised or amended as applicable:

“D-2 LABELING

A. Pouches. Each pouch shall be correctly and legibly labeled. Printing ink shall be permanent black ink or other, dark, contrasting color which is free of carcinogenic elements. The label shall contain the following information:

- (1) Name and flavor of product (letters not less than 1/8 inch high)
- (2) Ingredients
- (3) Date 1/
- (4) Net Weight
- (5) Contractor's name and address
- (6) “Nutrition Facts” label in accordance with the Nutrition Labeling and Education Act (NLEA) and all applicable FDA/USDA regulations.

1/ Each pouch shall have the date of pack noted by using a four-digit code beginning with the final digit of the current year followed by the three digit Julian day code. For example, 27 May 04 would be coded as 4148. The Julian day code shall represent the day the product was packaged into the pouch.”

4. The Natick Soldier Center (NSC) has reviewed the request for specification changes in the subject documents: QAPs for A-A-20177C, A-A-20195C, A-A-20211A, A-A-20295B, A-A-20298 and PCR-C-004A.

Natick concurs and submits the following changes for all current, pending and future procurements:

a. D-2, A., after footnote 1, insert new footnote 2:

“2/ For commercially packaged items that are overwrapped, the above information shall be printed on either the inner or outer package or both. The product name and date shall be printed on the outer package.”

5. It is recommended that DSCP provide a contract modification to current, pending and future MRE contracts that allow the contractors to utilize this update to the labeling requirements of the QAPs for A-A-20177C, A-A-20195C, A-A-20211A, A-A-20295B, A-A-20298 and PCR-C-004A.

6. Natick will incorporate this change into the subject documents during the next document modification or revision, as applicable.

7. POCs for this action are P. Sherman (DSN 256-4062), J. Kennedy (DSN 256-2998), and C. Norton (DSN 256-5356).

DONALD A. HAMLIN  
Team Leader  
DoD Food Engineering Services Team

MFriel

CF: NSC:

C Arcidiacono	A Labrode
J Aylward	A Lee
M Canniff	V Loveridge
J Edwards	C Norton
M Friel	J Sharp
L Green	P Sherman
D Hamlin	J St. Jean
B Hill	R Trottier
J Kennedy	R Valvano
	C Coyne

CF: DSCP & SVCs:

D Anthony	M Balch
S Gallagher	C Ervin
C Galligan	E Haldeman
G Gee	G Miller
T Gordon	J Person
D Kavanagh	H Richardson
T Kasa	L Salerno
J Lecollier	L Schehl
A Lowry	B Spencer
M Malason	S Weeks
	P Beward