

# Preparing for ISBT 128

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The 14 characters of the ISBT 128 number contain information relating to the country of origin, the year of collection, a six digit sequence number and a check character

Country / Centre of origin	Year	Sequence Number	Check Character
R0001	10	999201	M

These numbers should be grouped as shown

R000 110 999 201 M

These 14 digits become 18 with spaces

# What are the main issues with ISBT 128?

- ▶ Barcode symbology
- ▶ Length of eye-readable unit number
- ▶ Proximity of codabar and ISBT 128 unit numbers on the pack

# Factors which will affect the ease of implementation of ISBT 128:

- ▶ The number of I.T. systems involved in the transfusion process.
- ▶ The number of Blood Fridges used to store Red cells
- ▶ In-house labelling of batched products with codabar numbers

For example, the following systems are used in St James Hospital:

- ▶ Laboratory Information System (L.I.S.): Telepath
- ▶ Tag printing system: Tracesafe
- ▶ Blood Tracking system: Blood Track
- ▶ Bedside checking: Safe Tx

## L.I.S.:

### Can your system handle ISBT 128?

Consider the following functions:

- ▶ Entering units into stock: is the field long enough to take 18 characters?
- ▶ Reserving units for crossmatch
- ▶ Stationary i.e. reports, labels, tags etc, can they fit 18 characters?
- ▶ Fating units
- ▶ Printing of lists

- ▶ Can your barcode scanners read ISBT 128?  
Test all your scanners, they may look the same but are they?
- ▶ Can your scanners handle both Codabar and ISBT128 symbology without changing settings?
- ▶ It's just the unit number that will be ISBT 128, all other barcodes on the pack will still be Codabar

# Tag printing system:

# Tracesafe

**ST. JAMES'S HOSPITAL**  
**BLOOD TRANSFUSION DEPARTMENT**  
**COMPATABILITY / PRODUCT ISSUE REPORT**

If transfused please peel off label and place in Blood Transfusion Record

COMMENT

ISSUED FOR

SURNAME:		
FORENAME:	SEX	
MRN:	D.O.B:	
PATIENT GROUP	ANTIBODY:	
UNIT NO:	CHART	
PRODUCT CODE:	UNIT GROUP:	
EXPIRY DATE:	USE BY:	
UNIT, TAG AND ID BAND DETAILS CHECKED AT BEDSIDE BY:	Signed 1	
DATE/TIME:	Signed 2	

Spec. No: Ward: Cons:

Date Req'd: Return Date:

**TO COMPLY WITH LEGAL REQUIREMENTS, ONCE TRANSFUSION COMMENCED, PLEASE SIGN AND DATE BELOW, TEAR OFF LABEL AND PLACE IN THE BLOOD TRANSFUSION COLLECTION BOX LOCATED ON THE WARD**

UNIT NO:

PRODUCT CODE:

**BLOOD TRANSFUSION COLLECTION BOX**

NAME:

MRN:	SEX	
TRANSFUSION STARTED BY:	DATE/TIME	

UNIT No.

SURNAME:

FORENAME:

MRN:	D.O.B.	SIGNED.
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**PLEASE LEAVE THIS PORTION ATTACHED TO THE PACK**



The unit number appears in 3 places on the tag:

Will it print the unit barcode in ISBT 128 for fating?

**ST. JAMES'S HOSPITAL**  
**BLOOD TRANSFUSION DEPARTMENT**  
**COMPATABILITY / PRODUCT ISSUE REPORT**

If transfused please peel off label and place in Blood Transfusion Record

COMMENT

ISSUED FOR

SURNAME:		SEX
FORENAME:		SEX
MRN:	D.O.B:	
PATIENT GROUP	ANTIBODY:	
UNIT NO:	UNIT GROUP:	
PRODUCT CODE:	USE BY:	
ENTRY DATE:	Signed 1	
UNIT, TAG AND ID BAND DETAILS CHECKED AT BEDSIDE BY:	Signed 2	
DATE/TIME:		

Spec. No: Ward: Cons:

Date Req'd: Return Date:

TO COMPLY WITH LEGAL REQUIREMENTS, ONCE TRANSFUSION COMMENCED, PLEASE SIGN AND DATE BELOW, TEAR OFF LABEL AND PLACE IN THE BLOOD TRANSFUSION COLLECTION BOX LOCATED ON THE WARD

UNIT NO:

PRODUCT CODE:

**BLOOD TRANSFUSION COLLECTION BOX**

NAME:

MRN: SEX

TRANSFUSION STARTED BY: DATE/TIME

UNIT No.

SURNAME:

FORENAME:

MRN: D.O.B. SIGNED.

**PLEASE LEAVE THIS PORTION ATTACHED TO THE PACK**

# Mock-up of ISBT 128 Tag

Unit number

R352 ST. JAMES'S HOSPITAL Vers 2

**BLOOD TRANSFUSION DEPARTMENT**  
**COMPATABILITY/PRODUCT ISSUE REPORT**  
If transfused please peel off label and place in Blood Transfusion Record

COMMENT  
Comment1Comment1Comment1Comment1Comment1  
Comment2Comment2Comment2Comment2Comment2  
Comment3Comment3Comment3Comment3Comment3

ISSUED FOR  
SURNAME: Landsteiner  
FORENAME: Karl SEX M  
MRN: H 12346 D.O.B: 14/06/1868

PATIENT GROUP O Rh Neg ANTIBODY: AntiB

UNIT NO: F000 110 999 602 K

PRODUCT CODE: Pit UNIT GROUP: AO Pos

EXPIRY DATE: 25/03/2010 USE BY: 15/03/2010

UNIT, TAG AND ID BAND DETAILS  
CHECKED AT BEDSIDE BY: Signed 1  
DATE/TIME: Signed 2

Spec. No: 987654321 Ward: Mountbatten Comp: DrAbCde  
Date Req'd: 12/03/2010 Return Date: 20/03/2010

TO COMPLY WITH LEGAL REQUIREMENTS, ONCE TRANSFUSION HAS COMMENCED, PLEASE SIGN AND DATE BELOW, TEAR OFF AT THE DOTTED LINE AND PLACE IN THE BLOOD TRANSFUSION COLLECTION BOX LOCATED ON THE WARD.

UNIT NO: F000 110 999 602 K

PRODUCT CODE: 2345678

NAME: Landsteiner Karl  
MRN: H 12346 SEX M

TRANSFUSION STARTED BY: DATE/TIME

UNIT No. F000 110 999 602 K

SURNAME: Landsteiner  
FORENAME: Karl

MRN: H 12346 D.O.B: 14/06/1868 SIGNED DrXYX

PLEASE LEAVE THIS PORTION ATTACHED TO THE PACK

ISBT 128  
barcode

# Blood Tracking System / Bedside checking

- ▶ Can it handle ISBT 128?
- ▶ Can it handle both Codabar and ISBT 128 without changing settings?
- ▶ If both settings are switched on, how will you ensure clinical staff scan the correct barcode

# Blood Tracking System / Bedside checking

- ▶ If more than one product is being tracked, the product barcode will need to be scanned! Remember this barcode will remain Codabar, can your tracking system handle this?
- ▶ Bedside checking normally involves scanning product codes, can the bedside scanners handle codabar?

# Project Plan

- ▶ There is no urgency in implementing use of the ISBT 128 number.
- ▶ The Codabar labelling will remain for a long time
- ▶ There are two different approaches that can be taken.
- ▶ The approach you take will be influenced by the type of hospital you work in.



# 1: Begin Immediately

- ▶ This will involve using the ISBT 128 numbers from the very first unit received
- ▶ This approach will be very simple and easy to implement in a small hospital with no external I.T. systems involved.
- ▶ Clinical staff must be made aware that when both numbers exist, the ISBT 128 must be used.

# 1: begin immediately

- ▶ All your I.T. systems must be capable of reading both barcode types without changing the settings
- ▶ Do you deface the Codabar barcode on units to ensure blood tracking systems read the correct barcode?
- ▶ It may be difficult on the clinical side to run two different systems together. You could end up with a crossmatch report which has two different numbering systems on the one report!

## 2. Wait until all units in stock have dual labelling.

- ▶ This approach will probably be the one most bigger hospitals will take.
- ▶ All I.T. systems will be set to read '*Codabar only*' until the implementation date.
- ▶ When all units in stock are labelled with ISBT 128 numbers, a date will be set for implementation.
- ▶ Use this interim period to validate the ISBT 128 numbers in your test environment



- ▶ Choose a day and time which is usually quiet.
- ▶ Make sure there are sufficient Blood Transfusion Staff available
- ▶ All staff should be familiar with the implementation plan. (don't forget on-call staff)
- ▶ Have I.T. support available for all your I.T. systems.

- ▶ Ensure all clinical staff are aware of the changeover, use Hospital intranet sites to advertise.
- ▶ Return as much blood as possible from the satellite fridges, leaving emergency O Neg blood available.
- ▶ Dispose of all units of blood using a disposal code 'units re-entered using ISBT 128'

- ▶ Change all settings on I.T. systems and re-enter all units as ISBT 128.
- ▶ Re-issue ISBT 128 blood to replace codabar units left in the satellite fridges.
- ▶ Run a list of all units in your L.I.S. with all statuses except 'used' and 'disposed' and make sure there are no remaining Codabar units

# What about in-house labelling of batch products?

- ▶ Do you need a license to produce ISBT 128 numbers for your batch products?
- ▶ Will you continue using codabar numbers?
- ▶ Will it cause confusion on the clinical end to see units with codabar only after the changeover?