

DRAFT SAINT LUCIA NATIONAL STANDARD

DNS 1 - 2

LABELLING OF COMMODITIES — PART 2: LABELLING OF PREPACKAGED GOODS — SPECIFICATION (CRS 66: 2016, MOD)

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GENERAL STATEMENT

The Saint Lucia Bureau of Standards was established under the Standards Act (No. 14 of 1990) and started operations on 01 April 1991. A broad-based 15-member Standards Council directs the affairs of the Bureau.

The Standards Act gives the Bureau the responsibility to develop and promote standards and codes of practice for products and services for the protection of the health and safety of consumers and the environment as well as for industrial development in order to promote the enhancement of the economy of Saint Lucia. The Bureau develops standards through consultations with relevant interest groups. In accordance with the provisions of the Standards Act, public comment is invited on all draft standards before they are declared as Saint Lucia National Standards.

The Bureau also administers the Metrology Act No. 17 of 2000. This legislation gives the Bureau the responsibility to regulate all weights and measures and to manage and co-ordinate the metrication of Saint Lucia.

The Bureau operates a Product Certification Scheme applicable to all products for which national standards exist. If a product satisfies all the requirements for certification, a licence to carry the **Saint Lucia Standard Mark** is issued to the manufacturer of the product. The presence of the mark on a product indicates that the product conforms to all the requirements of a specific national standard and assures consistent quality (of the product) to the consumer.

The Bureau is a member body of the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO), an affiliate member of the International Electrochemical Commission (IEC) and a member of the CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ) and the Pan American Standards Commission (COPANT). The Bureau is the local agent for several foreign standards bodies such as the British Standards Institution (BSI) and the ASTM International (formerly known as the American Society for Testing and Materials). The Bureau serves as the enquiry point for the World Trade Organisation (WTO) on matters pertaining to the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Agreement. The Bureau also serves as the National CODEX Alimentarius enquiry point with responsibility for coordinating national positions on CODEX matters.

In accordance with good practice for the adoption and application of standards, Saint Lucia National Standards are subject to review every five years. Suggestions for improvements are always welcomed at any time after publication of the standard.

**LABELLING OF COMMODITIES — PART 2: LABELLING OF
PREPACKAGED GOODS — SPECIFICATION (CRS 66: 2016, MOD)***AMENDMENTS ISSUED SINCE LAST PUBLICATION*

Amendment no.	Date of issue	Type of Amendment	Text(s) affected

FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

ATTACHMENT PAGE FOR SLBS AMENDMENT SHEET

FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

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**LABELLING OF COMMODITIES — PART 2: LABELLING OF
PREPACKAGED GOODS — SPECIFICATION (CRS 66: 2016, MOD)**

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR GENERAL CONSUMER PRODUCTS

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Saint Lucia Bureau of Standards

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FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Foreword

This national standard is a revision of SLNS 1-2: 1993 Specification for the labelling of commodities – Part 2 – Labelling of prepackaged goods. This revised version of the standard is a modification of CARICOM Regional Standard CRS 66: 2016 Labelling of prepackaged goods. This 2nd Edition was adopted by the standards council on....

This revised standard provides information on the requirements for display of hazard warnings and use of standard marks on goods.

This standard has been prepared to prevent fraud and deception arising from misleading labelling and to give adequate information to the consumer or user of pre-packaged goods.

It is expected that this standard will minimize the confusion that exists in the labelling of different classes of articles that are customarily sold with too little information. This standard has been prepared to lay down the basic requirements and basic information that labels should carry.

This standard will assist the purchaser or consumer towards an understanding of the nature, quality or use of the goods so that he may judge whether it is adequate for his needs and is of a quality or usefulness for which he judges the price to be acceptable.

It is hoped that this standard will also assist Saint Lucian manufacturers in meeting the requirements of regional and extra-regional markets. It is vital for local manufacturers to pay particular attention to labelling requirements of other countries where certain mandatory information may be required and where certain claims made on goods may be illegal.

Deviations were made to the CARICOM Regional Standard to include references to Saint Lucian National Standards where applicable.

1 Scope

This standard sets out requirements for the information to be included on labels of goods prepackaged for sale, the method of display of such information, and where necessary, the wording and units of measurements to be used.

This standard does not apply to the following:

- a) goods that are sold unpackaged, or in an open or uncovered package;
- b) goods that are weighed or measured in or counted into the package in the presence of the purchaser, or weighed, measured or counted in the presence of the purchaser before being packaged;
- c) goods in packages not intended for retail sale;
- d) goods or classes of goods where different or additional information is prescribed by any Saint Lucia standard or model regulations approved by the competent authority;

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- e) goods intended for export only which comply with the requirements of standards or laws on labelling in force in the country to which they are being exported;
- f) cases where any national standard for any goods or classes of goods makes differing or supplementary provisions for labelling, the provisions of that standard shall prevail over the provisions of this standard, for example, pre-packaged foods and tobacco products;
- g) gift-wrapped goods;
- h) markings on shipping containers; and
- i) commercial users of the product (once buying in commercial quantities).

The national standard SLNS 1-1 Specification for labelling of commodities – Part 1: General requirements, product specific supplementary specifications for particular goods or groups, as well as the labelling clauses in product standards, shall be read in conjunction with this standard.

2 Normative reference

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

Saint Lucia Bureau of Standards

— *SLNS 1-1 Specification for labelling of commodities – Part 1: General requirements*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1 address

the identifiable street address of the principal place of business or registered office of:

- a) the manufacturer or packager of the goods; or
- b) the person for whom the goods are manufactured or packaged.

NOTE In the case of imported goods, the address shall consist of the name of the place where the principal office of the business is located and the name of the country of origin. The name and address of the importer may also be included on the label.

3.2 assembler

a person or business who puts together components of an item

3.3 bulk container

a container in which packages or commodities are placed, and in which packages or commodities are not intended to be retained when they are sold by way of retail

3.4 combination package

a package intended for retail sale, which contains two or more individual packages or units of dissimilar commodities

3.5 common name

the name by which those goods are commonly described in Saint Lucia, or any name for those goods that is commonly used in any trade, art, craft, science, industry or occupation in countries using the English Language or acceptable language of the country in which it is being sold and includes any name in a standard declared by the competent authority, for those goods

3.6 competent authority

a Minister, Ministry, department of government or statutory body administering any law regulating the labelling of goods

3.7 country of origin

- a) country where the goods were wholly manufactured; or
- b) in cases where the composition and or quality of the goods was changed to a significant extent elsewhere (other than by packaging), the last country where such significant change occurred.

3.8 date mark

any date by which the age of any article may be determined if it is subject to deterioration in the course of distribution through trade

3.9 defect

a characteristic causing the non-fulfilment of specific requirements

3.10 defective

that which contains one or more defects

3.11 distribute

to deliver goods to another person in exchange for money, whether directly or indirectly, or other consideration or as samples/sampling

3.12 distributor

a person or company that supplies stores or businesses with goods

3.13 expiry date

any date after which the manufacturer or packager does not guarantee any property of the goods by reason of the foreseeable deterioration due to age or normal handling before retail sale

3.14 instruction for use

any information as to the method of storage, handling, use, installation, care, maintenance or repair that may reasonably assist a consumer, user or purchaser in using any goods, or which

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may be required to be given in conformity with a standard, warranty, or any law in force in Saint Lucia

3.15 label

any tag, brand, mark, pictorial or other descriptive matter, written/printed, stenciled, marked, embossed, impressed on, accompanying or attached to a container

3.16 manufacturer

the person who produces, processes, prepares, packages, or prepackages any goods for retail sale

3.17 multiple containers

a package in which one or more similar articles of prepackaged goods are placed and which may be sold together with them by retail as a unit or each prepackaged article may be sold separately

3.18 multiunit package

a package containing two or more individual packages of the same commodity in the same quantity, with individual packages intended to be sold as part of the multiunit package, but capable of being sold individually, in full compliance with all the requirements of this standard

3.19 net contents

the quantity of goods contained in a package as measured in terms of a unit of measurement of length, volume, weight (or mass), or number, when the package and packing materials have been excluded from the goods

3.20 ornamental container

a package/container in which the surfaces commonly displayed are used solely for decorative ornament and not for any advertising or promotional information other than the trade name and the common name of the goods

3.21 package

any container, wrapper, confining band or card in which any product is offered for sale to the retail purchaser

3.22 packager

a person or business firm that packages a product or merchandise for commercial sale

3.23 pre-owned

second-hand, not new, having had a previous owner, regardless of whether or not it has been used

3.24 prepackaged goods

goods that are placed in advance of sale in the final package in which it is intended for retail sale, and in which it may be sold, used or purchased without further repackaging

3.25 principal display panel

that part of the package which is most likely to be displayed, shown or examined under customary conditions of display for retail sale

3.26 reconditioned

(when used to describe goods) goods which have been overhauled, repaired, refitted, or have undergone a similar process to be made usable again

3.27 registered office

an address which is registered at the official registering authority as the official address of a company

3.28 repackage

to place goods into a new package; or to package again

3.29 retail price

the price set or asked by a retailer for:

- a) one or a specified number of articles of the goods; or
- b) one or a specified number of units of measurement of the goods

3.30 seconds

goods which do not fully satisfy the specific requirements for the particular goods, but which still fulfil intended usage requirements for the particular goods

3.31 sell

- a) offer of sale, expose for sale, have in possession for sale; and
- b) display in such a manner as may reasonably be construed as to invite an offer to treat or to be for sale.

3.32 shipping container

any container intended to protect goods during transport that is not customarily used to store the goods when displayed for sale

3.33 unit of measurement

any unit in the SI system and units or Imperial System of units or any other unit prescribed by law for use in trade, or commonly used in trade, science, the arts, or other occupations to measure the properties of an article

3.34 warranty or guarantee

an undertaking given by a vendor, manufacturer, distributor or supplier to a purchaser or consumer with respect to any goods or part of goods, relating to any of the following matters:

- a) safety;
- b) quantity;
- c) quality;
- d) composition;

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- e) performance;
- f) lifespan;
- g) durability;
- h) repair and maintenance services;
- i) replacement of goods if found defective;
- j) compensation to the purchaser or consumer for any defective goods supplied, or loss, harm, damage or under hardships resulting from use of any defective goods supplied; or
- k) any other related matters not included under (a) to (j) above.

4 Requirements

4.1 General

Each package of prepackaged goods shall be labelled with the following information:

- a) the common or usual name of the commodity, a generic name, or appropriately descriptive term such as a statement of function or the name required by or specified in any applicable regulation together with any trade name or brand name controlled by the manufacturer;
- b) the name of the manufacturer and identifiable address, the principal place of business or registered office of the manufacturer, packer or importer and the name of the country of origin. It shall be preceded by the words “manufactured by”, “packed by.....”, “distributed by....”, “imported by.....”, as applicable, and the words:
 - 1) **“made in (name of territory)”**;
 - 2) **“product of (name of territory)”**;
 - 3) **“packaged in (name of territory)”**; as appropriate.
- c) a correct statement of the net contents of the package, subject to such tolerance as may be allowed, in units of measurement;
- d) all ingredients or contents shall be listed in decreasing order of predominance by weight or volume. If applicable, ‘**Active Ingredients**’ shall be stated first, in decreasing order of weight, or volume, or percentage, followed by the ‘**Inert Ingredients**’, in decreasing order of weight or percentages;
- e) an expiry date or date marks where an indication of the age of the goods is likely to be useful to the consumer or purchaser;

4.2 Position of information on the package or on the goods

4.2.1 The information required by 4.1 (a) and (c) shall be placed on the principal display panel of the package, that is, the part of the package that is displayed or visible to the purchaser or consumer at the point of sale, which may be:

- a) in the case of a box, the side or surface commonly displayed;
- b) in the case of a cylindrical container, an area covering an arc of 40 % of the product of the height times the circumference of the cylindrical surface;
- c) in the case of a bag with equal sides, one of these sides;
- d) in the case of a bag with sides of more than one size, the size with the largest area;
- e) in the case of a wrapper or confining band that is much narrower than the goods contained therein, the total area of a ticket or tag attached to the container or to the goods;
- f) in the case of an article attached to a display card with which it is sold, the area of the display card and of the package; and
- g) in the case of an ornamental package, at the bottom of the package.

4.2.2 The information required by 4.1 (b), (d) and (e) shall be shown on any part of the label except that part of the label, if any, applied to the bottom of the container.

4.3 Prevention of deception

A label on package of prepackaged goods may contain other information, designs, symbols or pictorial matter, provided that no words, illustration, symbols, or other matter are used to:

- a) give an erroneous impression as to the net contents of the package;
- b) give an erroneous impression as to any ingredient or component of the goods or that the goods contain an ingredient or component that is not in fact contained in it;
- c) refer to the nature, origin, type, quality, performance, function, or method of manufacture or production of the goods that is likely to give an erroneous impression as to the matter described or depicted;
- d) give an erroneous impression as to the country of origin of the goods;
- e) give an erroneous impression as to the price or unit price of the goods;
- f) give an erroneous impression as to ease of maintenance or repair of the goods, or as to the availability of spare parts for the goods;
- g) give an undertaking or warranty, expressed or implied, which cannot be satisfied by the product or the manufacturer.

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4.4 Exemptions for certain retail sales

Goods which are repackaged by the retailer need not be labelled with the information required by

4.1, so long as they are sold or displayed or exposed for sale in close proximity to a notice, card, or statement in clearly discernible lettering containing the information required by 4.1.

4.5 Language to be used on labels of prepackaged goods

4.5.1 All statements required by 4.1 shall be in the official language or languages accepted by the government of country in which the product is being sold.

4.5.2 All statements required by clause 4 shall be printed or written in the alphabet of the official language or languages of the country in which it is being sold.

4.5.3 All numbers relating to net contents stated on the label shall be given in Arabic numerals or in words.

4.5.4 Where multiple languages are used, those languages shall be specified by the country in which the product is being sold. Where a country specifies that more than one language is to be used, the statements required by 4.1 shall be separate from the statements in other languages, and placed on the label or package as required by 4.3.

4.6 Warranties or guarantees

No reference shall be made on a label or on a package to any warranty or guarantee for any goods unless a copy of the warranty or guarantee is given to the purchaser or consumer at the time of possession of the goods.

4.7 Presentation of information

4.7.1 All information required by this standard to be placed on a label or ticket shall be clearly presented and readily discernible under normal conditions of sale.

4.7.2 Where the statements of common name or manufacturer's name or manufacturer's address or of country of origin consist of more than one word, the statements thereof required by

4.1 shall be in letters of identical size and style of print.

4.7.3 Date markings and expiry dates

4.7.4 Where products are liable to deteriorate after the date of manufacture or packaging so that the quality, safety, hygiene or other desirable characteristics are not likely to be maintained,

the expected shelf life shall be indicated with a date mark, a date of minimum durability or expiry date.

4.7.5 The format for the date markings shall be as follows:

These dates shall consist at least of:

- a) the day, month and the year for products produced for consumption within a period of not more than three months; and
- b) the month and the year for products produced for consumption within a period longer than three months.

NOTE The month shall be declared using the first three letters, first four letters, full word or numerical format.

The year shall be declared as follows:

- a) a two digit numerical representation is adequate when accompanied by the first three letters of the month; or

EXAMPLE JAN 08.

- b) a four digit numerical representation, such as 2008, when the two digit numerical representation of the month is used.

EXAMPLE 01 2008.

4.7.6 The date of minimum durability shall be declared by the words “best before” or words expressing similar intent e.g. “expiry” or “use by”, “BB” or “EXP”. The words used to express date of minimum durability shall be accompanied by:

- a) either the date itself; or
- b) a reference to where the date is given.

4.7.7 In addition to the date of minimum durability if there are any special conditions for storage of the product, it shall be declared on the label if the validity of the date depends on it.

4.8 Instructions for use and information on source for spare parts

4.8.1 Instructions for use or care in handling shall be included on the label or accompanying document, as necessary to ensure correct utilization of the product.

4.8.2 Where components of an article are likely to become unserviceable before the end of the expected life of the article, and where such components are not commonly available, the instructions for use should indicate the name or appropriate specification of the component or spare part.

4.8.3 Where no instructions for use are given with the article or goods, the information on spare parts shall be supplied separately with the goods.

4.9 Display of hazard warnings

4.9.1 If a hazard warning is required by another product standard, the warning including pictorials shall be displayed at point of sale when the goods are separated from the packaging.

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4.9.2 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, any appropriate hazard symbol and words, and instructions for use, shall be in the official language or languages of the country in which the goods are being sold, and shall be provided either on the label, on the package, on the goods, or on a card or paper accompanying the goods or package.

4.9.3 The label shall highlight (separate from the ingredient list) any of the ingredients or manufacturing conditions which are likely to cause an adverse allergic reaction to users. The following foods and ingredients are known to cause hypersensitivity and shall always be declared:

- a) cereals containing gluten such as, wheat, rye, barley, oats, spelt or their hybridized strains and their related products;
- b) crustacea and crustacean products;
- c) eggs and egg products;
- d) fish and fish products;
- e) peanuts, soybeans and their related products;
- f) milk and milk products (lactose included);
- g) tree nuts and nut products; and
- h) sulphite in concentrations of 10 mg/kg or more.

4.10 Labelling of used, defective, seconds/irregular or imperfect goods

All goods which are used goods, defective, seconds/irregular or imperfect shall be clearly and conspicuously labelled with the words 'USED', 'DEFECTIVE', 'SECONDS', 'IRREGULAR' or 'IMPERFECT' as appropriate; as long as the product remains merchantable and safe.'

5 Use of standard marks

5.1 The law of a Territory shall govern the use of a Standard Mark issued by a standard organization of a Territory of the Caribbean Community.

5.2 The use of a Standard Mark issued by a national or regional standard organization outside or within the Caribbean Community shall be in accordance with the rules or laws governing that Standard Mark applied by the standard organization.

5.3 No manufacturer or packager shall use a standard mark on a label, on a package, or on goods without written authorization in accordance with the laws or rules referred to in 4.1 and 4.2.

NOTE The following bodies in the Caribbean Community issue Standard Marks:

- a) Saint Lucia Bureau of Standards (SLBS)
- b) Barbados National Standards Institute (BNSI)
- c) Bureau of Standards Jamaica (BSJ)
- d) Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards (TTBS) and should be consulted as appropriate.

6 Advice on labels

6.1 A manufacturer or packager should consult with a competent authority or a national standards organization, as to whether any label used or proposed for use on prepackaged goods complies with the standard of the country of which the goods are distributed.

6.2 Where a competent authority administers a law referring to this or any other acceptable standard that makes provision for labelling of goods, the Saint Lucia Bureau of Standards will refer the applicant to that authority for advice on labels.

7 Conflicts

7.1 In the event of conflict between the provisions of this standard and the labelling requirements of any other acceptable standard or model regulations approved by the competent authority, the latter shall prevail.

7.2 In event of conflict between the provisions of this standard and any acceptable standard for the labelling of classes of goods that are sold prepackaged, the latter shall prevail.

8 Registration of labels programme

If applicable, labels should be registered with the national standards organization or competent authority.

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