



# COUNTRY OF ORIGIN FOR LENSES STANDARD - 2010

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## FORWARD

This voluntary standard provides the format and placing of a scan-able Country of Origin barcode on lens component packaging. Participation by manufacturers, distributors, retailers, and wholesalers can reduce costs and potential delays in shipping. The Vision Council and its member companies support the use of this standard.

There may be practices, standards, and/or regulatory requirements applicable to your operations that exceed the recommendations in this document. You are solely responsible for determining if such practices, standards, or requirements exist and whether they apply to your activities. It is your responsibility to comply with those items that are applicable. Such practices, standards, and requirements can change over time.

The Vision Council does not guarantee, promise or warrant that the specifications in this document will meet the needs of your operations. This is a determination that you must make and for which The Vision Council is not responsible. Please note that this standard may be revised or withdrawn at anytime.

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# 1. SCOPE

**1.1** The scope of the committee's work is to write a voluntary standard for members of The Vision Council that identifies a location and a method for lens packaging such that machine readable Country of Origin (Made In, Substrate Made In, or Substantial Transformation); information can be placed. This committee has identified two levels of scope: Short-Term and Long-Term to address ever-changing advancements in barcode technology.

**1.2 Short Term Scope (In Scope)** – Leverage existing technology (128C) to develop a machine-readable Country of Origin barcode. This barcode and placement of the barcode will incorporate consistent standards as outlined in this document. We believe that implementing these standards will help to:

- Reduce overall costs of moving products from one country to another
- Increase accuracy and timing for clearing Customs
- Have an acceptable implementation impact

**1.3 Long Term Scope (Out of Scope)** – Barcode technology is currently evolving into higher data density barcodes known as 2D barcodes. This committee recognizes that a 2D barcode is the barcode of the future. The technology needed to read 2D barcodes at this time, will require significant investment and is not currently widely used. Going forward, a working group will create an agreed upon standardized format and location of a 2D barcode. So as the industry moves to 2D technology the standard will already be in place. This will reduce confusion around using multiple 2D formats and location of the barcodes. The goal would be that the 2D barcode would become the "global standard" used on the lens label. The short-term 128C Country of Origin barcode would be phased out and be replaced by the 2D barcode. There could be instances where

a 128C and a 2D barcode are on the same lens label until the 2D becomes the standard.

**1.4 Scope of Timing Short-Term and Long-Term Country of Origin Barcode** – The committee has put forth a timeline to ensure that we stay on task with moving towards the long-term goal of 2D barcodes.

**128C Barcode** – Start implementing by end of 2010

**2D Barcode** – Begin creating the standards and placement – 2011-2013

**Phase-In of 2D and Phase-Out 128C Country of Origin Barcodes** – 2013-2015

**2D Barcode becomes the Industry Standard; Used on all Lens Packaging/Labels** – By 2016

This timeline is subject to change.

**1.5 Scope of Packaging Changes for Country of Origin Barcode** – Adding the Country of Origin to packaging of FSV Lenses or SF Blanks will require a label change. This committee understands the changes to the label could occur immediately or over time as the existing packaging/labeling is being consumed. A manufacturer can re-label existing product or print new packaging with Country of Origin barcode if so desired but is not a requirement. The provided packaging scope should help as a re-labeling guideline.

## 2.0 DEFINITIONS

**2.1.1 Country of Origin: North American Customs** – The Country of Origin could be the origin of the substrate where the lens blank was cast or molded or where substantial transformation may occur. The manufacture will always designate the Country of Origin by using the applicable legal guidelines that relates to their products.

Examples: Made In China or Substrate Made In Thailand

**2.1.2 Processed In:** This occurs when a process is applied by a facility to a lens blank, which is different from where the lens blank is cast/molded.

Example: Substrate Made In Thailand,  
Processed In Philippines

**2.2 CoO: Refers to Country of Origin.** (See above)

**2.3 Lens Product Label:** This is a label that is applied to either a sleeve (Finished Single Vision Product) or a box (Semi Finished Product). The product label will have data and information about the product that is inside the package.

**2.4 CoO Label:** This is a label or printed barcode that is applied onto a lens package that identifies country of origin. This label or printed barcode should only be used when space is limited on the Lens Product Label and a CoO barcode cannot be printed on the Lens Product Label due to space.

**2.5 ISO Country Code:** For this voluntary standard the use of ISO Standard 3166-1 will use a three-digit numeric code. This code is a global standardized code, which will correspond to the country the product was “Made In”, “Substrate Made In” and/or “Processed In”.

**2.6 Barcode Format:** For this voluntary standard the Barcode Format will be a barcode that is 128C, 3mm minimum height and eight characters long, eg. (03920731). The first four digits includes the three-digit ISO country code for “Made In” or “Substrate Made In”. The last four digits includes the three-digit ISO country code for “Processed In”. If only “Made In” or “Substrate Made In” is needed then the last four digits will be a zero followed by 999. The 999 code would identify there is no country of reference.

**2.7 Human Readable ISO Country Code:** A human readable Numeric ISO Country Code along with printed verbiage identifying the country for the substrate in which the lens blank was cast or

molded. Example – 0392 “Made In Japan”. This will be used when the 128C barcode cannot be scanned for the required information. For North American Customs, a printed numeric code eight digits long and a “Made In” or “Substrate Made In” will always have to be printed on the label/package.

## 3.0 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

**3.1** The CoO barcode will be a bar code type 128C.

**3.2** Minimum Bar height would be 3mm but can be higher if space allows. Orientation of barcode, should be horizontal across.

**3.3** The barcode is required eight characters long.

**3.4** The first character will be a zero followed by a three-digit ISO Country Code. If no “Processed In” occurs then the final four digits are a zero and 999. If “Processed In” is needed then the last four digits would be a zero and three-digit ISO Country to reflect “Processed In”.

**3.5** ISO Country Codes that represents the “Made In”, “Substrate Made In” and/or “Processed In”.

Example: 03920999 – 392 would represent “Made In Japan”

Example: 03920764 – 392 “Substrate Made In Japan” and 764 “Processed In Thailand”

**3.6** A human readable “Made In”, “Substrate Made In” and “Substrate Made In and Processed In” along with a numeric ISO Country Code/ Codes will still be needed. This will be used for Companies that are not using scan-able technology or to easily identify where the product was “Made In”. The numbers and verbiage needs to be center justified under the barcode, as illustrated in the examples below (3A – Visual Examples of Country of Origin

Barcode). An acceptable alternative could be number, followed by verbiage, center justified under the barcode.

- 3.7 For instances when “Made In”, “Substrate Made In”, and “Substrate Made In and Processed In” are already printed on the envelope or box packaging the following options are acceptable.

If enough space on the label is available, the preferred method would be numbers and verbiage under barcode center justified as explained above in point 3.6.

If space is limited on the label and the “Made In” verbiage is pre-printed on the packaging (envelope or box) the verbiage is not required under the barcode and numbers. However, it is required to have the CoO barcode and numbers on the same side as the pre-printed “Made In” verbiage on the packaging. This will ensure the human readable information will be on the same side if the barcode cannot be scanned. It also helps to reduce confusion and manual effort searching for human readable information.

### 3A – VISUAL EXAMPLES OF COUNTRY OF ORIGIN BARCODE



03920999  
Made In Japan



03920999  
Substrate Made In Japan



03920764  
Substrate Made In Japan, Processed in Thailand

## 4.0 PLACEMENT OF CoO BARCODE FSV LENS ENVELOPE PACKAGING

- 4.1 Finished Single Vision Lens Envelope Packaging.
- 4.2 OPC and CoO barcode is preferred to be in similar location for ease of machine scanning or RF Gun scanning.
- 4.3 OPC should be on the top then followed by CoO barcode. This will ensure correct sequence of scanning is followed.
- 4.4 Preferred location for CoO is on the flap part of the label. If space is limited on primary label, a secondary label or a CoO barcode can be printed on the envelope. If secondary label or printed barcode is needed then the secondary CoO is required to be on the same side as the OPC label on the packaging. This will ensure ease of scanning both barcodes and reduce confusion.

### 4A – FINISHED SINGLE VISION ENVELOPE LABEL EXAMPLES



“Made In” example



“Substrate made in processed in” example

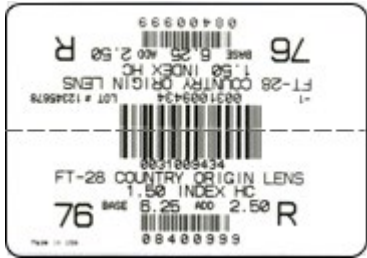
## 4B - LABEL ON ENVELOPE EXAMPLES

*"Made In" example**"Substrate made in processed in" example*

## 5.0 PLACEMENT OF COUNTRY OF ORIGIN BARCODE SEMI FINISHED BLANK BOX PACKAGING

- 5.1 Semi Finished Blanks Box Packaging.
- 5.2 OPC and CoO barcode is preferred to be in similar location for ease of machine scanning or RF Gun scanning.
- 5.3 OPC should be on the top then followed by CoO barcode. This will ensure correct sequence of scanning is followed.
- 5.4 The CoO barcode needs to be located on the same label side as the OPC barcode. Minimum requirement is to have the CoO either on the top of the box or on the "face" of the box. The "face" can refer to either the front or the rear of the box, depending on the individual manufacturer's box design/layout. Ideal design would have the CoO barcode on the top and "face" of the box. This way, a lens box can be read from the top while in a carton or sleeve or while it's laying down flat coming down the sort line.
- 5.5 If space is limited on primary label and the CoO cannot be added to the primary label, a secondary label can be applied. Also a CoO barcode can be printed on the box if the manufacture does not want to apply a secondary label. If secondary label or printed barcode needs to be used for the CoO barcode then it is required to be placed on the same side as the OPC label on the flap part of the label (back of the box). This will ensure ease of scanning both barcodes and reduce confusion.

5-A SEMI FINISHED BOX LABEL



"Made In" example



"Made In" example



"Substrate made in processed in" example



"Substrate made in processed in" example