

IME

institute of makers of explosives

Date / Plant / Shift Code

In 1971, IME member companies implemented a product identification system for packaged explosive products manufactured in the United States.

The code for the date, work shift and plant manufacture is plainly marked on each unit to be identified. Marked units include all cartridges of dynamite, blasting agent, water gel, slurry, cast boosters, primers, cartons or detonating cord, containers of blasting caps and similar accessories. The shipping case bears the same number as the units.

The following is the format for the Date / Plant / Shift Code used for product tracing:

Day	Month	Year	Location	Shift or Machine
2 digits	2 digits	2 digits	1 digit	1 digit
Numeric	Alpha	Numeric	Alpha	Numeric

When writing months, a two letter abbreviation is used:

January	JA	July	JY
February	FE	August	AU
March	MA	September	SE
April	AP	October	OC
May	MY	November	NO
June	JU	December	DE

As an example, a product manufactured on September 30, 1997 during the first shift at a plant which the manufacturer has assigned the letter "A" would be **30SE97A1**.

Manufacturers advise the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) when codes are changed.

Approved by the IME Board of Governors December 8-9, 1987.