

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
LIVESTOCK AND SEED PROGRAM**

APPROVED

USDA, AMS, LS, STDZ/Rm 2603-S

04/28/03

**TECHNICAL DATA SUPPLEMENT
FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF
CANNED/POUCH TUNA
TDS-CPT — APRIL 2003**

I. SCOPE

This technical data supplement in conjunction with Commercial Item Description (CID) A-A-20155B dated September 17, 2002, is for use by United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for the procurement of canned/pouch tuna. Contractors shall deliver only canned/pouch tuna that is landed by dolphin safe fishing method under American flag vessels that are completely processed in the United States.

II. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

The following documents and all references cited therein shall be incorporated as part of this USDA, TDS-CPT:

- Commercial Item Description A-A-20155B, September 17, 2002.
- Applicable provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act contained in 21 CFR Parts 1-199.
- United States Tuna Foundation/National Marine Fisheries Service (USTF/NMFS) Test Lot Protocol.
- United States Department of Commerce (USDC) Seafood Inspection Program (SIP) applicable procedures for canned/pouch tuna inspection and certification.
- USDA, AMS, Handbook for the Inspection for Food Containers.

III. SALIENT CHARACTERISTICS

A. FISH

Only domestic raw tuna processed under the provisions of the USTF/NMFS Test Lot Protocol shall be eligible.

B. FORM (Canned Only)

Form I — Chunk

C. COLOR

Color A — Light

D. PACKING MEDIA

Packing media 1 — Water

E. SALT LEVEL

Level a — No more than 1.5 percent salt shall be used. Monosodium glutamate is not allowed.

F. SEASONINGS/FLAVORINGS

Significant ingredients (more than 1 percent) shall be derived from U.S. produced products.

G. METAL DETECTION

All products shall be free of metal contaminants. The offeror shall demonstrate to the USDC SIP agent that the metal detection equipment used is capable of detecting stainless steel, ferrous, and non-ferrous metals.

IV. PREPARATION FOR DELIVERY

A. PACKAGING

The tuna will be packaged in either cans or pouches.

B. PACKING

All cans/pouches will be unitized by packing into new fiberboard shipping containers or placing on fiberboard trays with plastic shrink wrap. Only one size and style of unitized containers may be offered in an individual shipping unit.

1. Cans

Twenty four (24), 12.0 ounce cans shall be packed into a shipping container.

Each delivery unit will consist of 1,800 shipping containers with a net weight of 32,400 pounds.

Six (6) 66.5 ounce cans shall be packed into shipping container. Each delivery unit will consist of 1,440 shipping containers with a net weight of 35,910 pounds.

2. Pouches

Forty eight (48), 7.06 ounce pouches shall be packed into shipping container. Each delivery unit will consist of 1,700 shipping containers with a net weight of 36,006.

Eight (8) 43 ounce pouches shall be packed into shipping container. Each delivery unit will consist of 1,680 shipping containers with a net weight of 36,120 pounds.

C. MARKING OF CONTAINERS

Both primary and shipping containers will be labeled to include all information required by USDA/United States Food and Drug Administration regulations.

1. Universal Product Code Specifications

A Universal Product Code (UPC) is required on the shipping containers packed with 12.0 ounce can or 7.06 ounce pouch pack size only. The UPC used on the shipping containers is called Interleaved 2 of 5 (I 2/5) and is applied in accordance with the UPC guidelines published by the Uniform Code Council (UCC). The 14-digit I 2/5 bar code for the 12.0 ounce can shipping containers is 10715001017434. The UPC number for the 7.06 ounce pouch shipping containers is 10715001017465.

The UPC guidelines describe the requirements for the proper placement, printing, readability, and scanability for the bar coding. The complete code must be printed in machine and human readable form. The start and stop indicators must be included in the bar code symbols. Package manufacturers, printers, and film master suppliers are familiar with this symbology. Further information may be obtained from the Uniform Code Council, Inc.; 8163 Old Yankee Road, Suite J; Dayton, Ohio 45458.

Telephone: (513) 435-3870. The USDA has acquired a unique manufacturer's identification number for this application. Contractors need not join the UCC.

2. Primary Containers

Commercial labeling is accepted. The cans/pouches shall be suitably code marked so that the product can be identified as a specific lot with related acceptance certificates. Only one can/pouch code shall be allowed within each shipping container except as necessary to accommodate consecutive time period changeovers within a lot (Note: If a lot must be split to accommodate delivery unit, it cannot be split more than once). Can/Pouch must have the following information.

- a. Can/Pouch Code(s)
- b. Dolphin Safe Logo

3. Shipping Containers

Shipping containers must have the following information.

- a. USDA Shield (at least 2 inches high and appearing on the top of the container or on the principle display panel)



- b. Contract Number
- c. Can/Pouch Code(s)
- d. UPC Code — 12.0 Ounce Can and 7.06 Ounce Pouch Only
- e. Product Code:

Product Code	
Can/Pouch Size	Code
12.0 oz Can	A743
66.5 oz Can	A742
7.06 oz Pouch	A746
43.0 oz Pouch	A745

D. PALLETIZED UNIT LOADS

Unless otherwise specified in the invitation, all truck, rail, and piggyback shipments of product shall be unitized by stacking the shipping containers on new or well-maintained pallets. The shipping containers shall be held firmly in place by applying plastic stretch-wrap as tightly as possible around all of the tiers stacked on the pallet.

Pallets shall be flush, 48 inches long by 40 inches wide, stringer or block design, partial or full four-way entry, nonreversible, and suitable for use in the shipment of approximately 2,000 pounds of food product.

Pallet loads shall be stacked in a manner that minimizes the overhang of the shipping containers over the edges of the pallets and exposes the principle shipping container display panel of all boxes to facilitate certification examinations.

V. QUALITY ASSURANCE

Contractor may elect to offer product under (1) Continuous Inspection or (2) Lot Inspection. Acceptance or rejection of a lot shall be determined by the USDC SIP agent. Contractors are encouraged to request detailed information from USDC SIP concerning product certification services and fees.

Pressed cake weights for 66.5-ounce cans shall be in accordance with 21 CFR Part 161.190, Tuna Standard of Identity. For 12-ounce cans: The pressed cake weight shall be in accordance with the declared pressed cake weight in the Contract.

VI. CHECKLOADING

- A.** The USDC SIP agent shall certify acceptable product and set forth the following on a Memorandum Report of Inspection:
1. Contract number.
 2. Notice-to-Deliver Number.
 3. Name of product.
 4. Can/Pouch code(s) and the month and year of production.
 5. Name of American flag vessel(s) on which the tuna was landed.
 6. Count of shipping containers and total projected net weight of product in each lot.
 7. Total projected net weight per delivery unit.
 8. Date product was sealed in transport container.
 9. Include average pressed cake weight based on examination of 24 cans per lot (can product only). Note: Cannot be less than value shown in contract.
 10. Identity of car or truck (car numbers and letters, seals, truck license, etc.), as applicable.
 11. "Product conforms with TDS—CPT; count and projected net weight are certified."
- B.** Each delivery unit shall be accompanied by one of the following certificates listed below, as appropriate.
1. Certificate of Inspection.
 2. Lot Inspection Certificate.