

## **The Warehouse Limited - Food Date Coding Guidelines**

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In addition to New Zealand Food Standards labelling requirements, all food products must be labelled with a date code and/or batch code in accordance with New Zealand regulatory requirements. Date code and batch code regulations can be found within the [Food Standards Code Australia New Zealand](#). Vendors are required to demonstrate legal compliance with these requirements at all times.

The Warehouse Limited's company policy also requires:

- All date codes to be legible and indelible.
- Date codes to be printed on the retail unit and the shipper and these dates must match.
- The 'ideal shelf life' remaining on ambient products to be at least 12 months.
- Product that has less than 12 month's shelf life must have a minimum shelf life of 3 months on arrival into The Warehouse's distribution centre. Product with less than 3 months shelf life will not be accepted into distribution centres unless there is a prior agreement with the TWL Category Manager or relevant Group Buyer.
- Each **pallet** delivered into The Warehouse distribution centres must consist of 1 date code per barcode. Mixed date codes for the same barcode on the same pallet will not be accepted. Failure to do so may incur costs to return, recall or to destroy product at supplier cost.

For further information regarding The Warehouse Limited's general product and packaging requirements, visit the Supplier section within The Warehouse website - [Suppliers packaging and labelling guidelines](#).