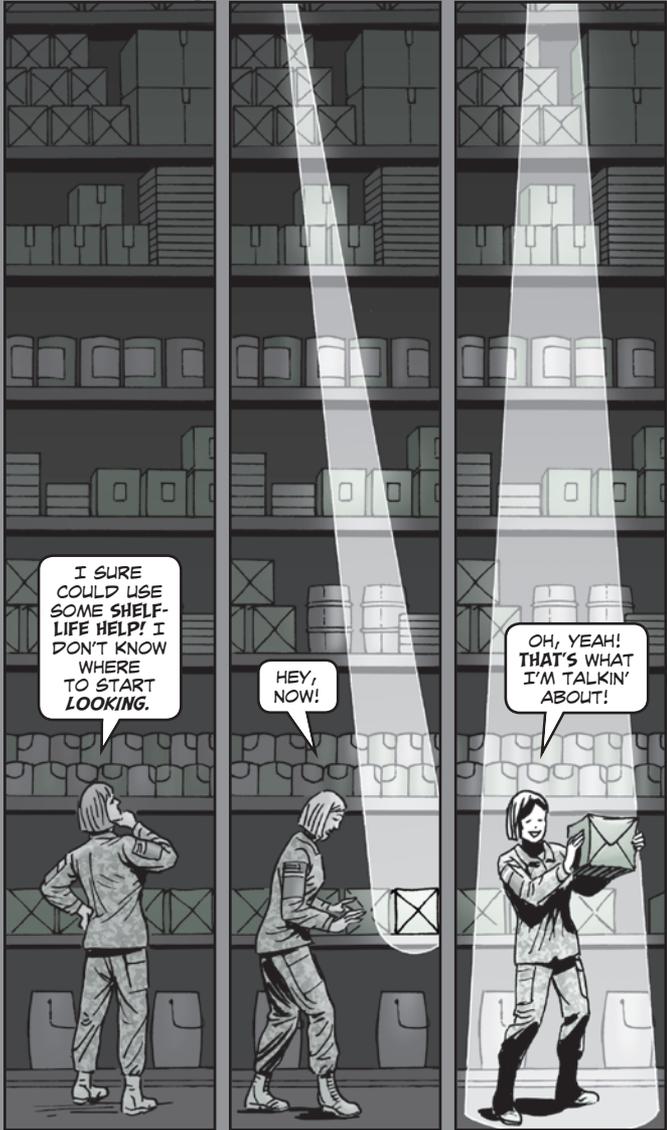


# Spotlight on Shelf-Life Help



I SURE COULD USE SOME SHELF-LIFE HELP! I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START LOOKING.

HEY, NOW!

OH, YEAH! THAT'S WHAT I'M TALKIN' ABOUT!

HUNTING HIGH AND LOW FOR SHELF-LIFE HELP?

THAT'S A BIG SUBJECT, BUT HERE ARE SOME GREAT PLACES TO GET STARTED...



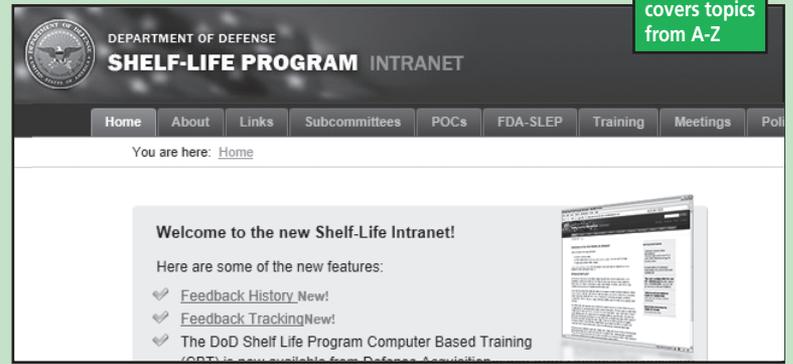
## Enter the Shelf-Life Wormhole

Your one-stop portal for shelf-life management is DOD's Shelf-Life Program website. It has tons of shelf-life info, including Shelf-Life Extension System (SLES) labels, policy publications, POCs, training and more.

If you have a Common Access Card (CAC) and a .mil domain computer, you can enter the DOD website directly at:

<https://headquarters.dla.mil/j-3/shelflife/>

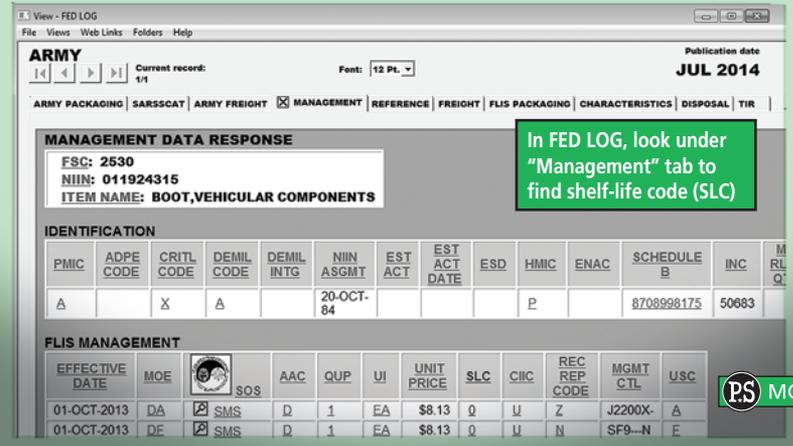
DOD's Shelf-Life Program website covers topics from A-Z



Even without a CAC, you can go to <https://www.shelflife.hq.dla.mil> and request an SLES account.

## It's All About the Code

To find out if an NSN item has a shelf life, check its shelf-life code in WebFLIS, FED LOG, SARSS or GCSS-Army. These databases should all show the same code.



In FED LOG, look under "Management" tab to find shelf-life code (SLC)

**MANAGEMENT DATA RESPONSE**  
 FSC: 2530  
 NIIN: 011924315  
 ITEM NAME: BOOT,VEHICULAR COMPONENTS

PMIC	ADPE CODE	CRITL CODE	DEMIL CODE	DEMIL INTG	NIIN ASGMT	EST ACT	EST ACT DATE	ESD	HMIC	ENAC	SCHEDULE B	INC	M RL Q
A		X	A		20-OCT-84				P		8708998175	50683	

EFFECTIVE DATE	MOE	SOS	AAC	QUP	UI	UNIT PRICE	SLC	CIIC	REC REP CODE	MGMT CTL	USC
01-OCT-2013	DA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMS	D	1	EA	\$8.13	Q	U	Z	J2200X-A
01-OCT-2013	DE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMS	D	1	EA	\$8.13	Q	U	N	SF9-N-E



If your item's shelf-life code is alpha (A-Z, except X), then it's Type I non-extendible. If the code is numeric (1-9), then the item's eligible to be extended after the original shelf-life with a proper inspection, which may also include laboratory testing.

<https://www.logsa.army.mil/psmag/archives/PS2012/710/710-50-51.pdf>

<https://www.logsa.army.mil/psmag/archives/PS2012/714/714-54-56.pdf>

If the shelf-life code is zero (0), it's a non-shelf-life item. For local purchase items, the shelf-life date is printed on the package or container.

### Make a List, Check it Twice

If you're not sure whether you have identified all your shelf-life items, contact the Logistics Support Activity (LOGSA) Packaging, Storage, and Containerization Center (PSCC).

PSCC can give you a customized listing of items on your Authorized Stockage List. This list shows NSNs, nomenclatures and corresponding shelf-life codes (Type I or Type II).

To get a customized shelf-life list, email PSCC. Put "Shelf-Life SSA Listing" in the subject line. In the main email, give your SSA DODAAC and Routing Identifier Code (SARRS-1), along with your full POC information. Send it to:

[toby.pt@us.army.mil](mailto:toby.pt@us.army.mil)

You can also call PSCC at DSN 795-7685 or (570) 615-7685.

### Enter the SLES Time Warp

Type I items are "use or lose" at the expiration date. To get extensions for Type II items, go to the DOD Shelf-Life Program website listed in the first paragraph of this article, select the SLES tab, then click [SLES Search](#).

Choose the Materiel Quality Control Storage Standards (MQCSS) database radio button and enter your NSN. Click on the blue NSN hyperlink. The inspection-type code will show a "V" for visual inspection, "L" for laboratory testing, or "R" for restoration.

In MQCSS database, "SLES" tab gives inspection type codes

Visual inspections can be done by designated staff in your chain of command who have had basic shelf-life training.

When shelf items need lab testing, it's best to get it done at a DOD-certified lab. Sending materiel to an unqualified local lab for shelf-life extension testing is risky because unserviceable materiel may be introduced into the supply system.

You'll find a list of DOD-approved labs on the DOD Shelf-Life website at:

<https://headquarters.dla.mil/j-3/shelflife/SLES/TestLabs.aspx>

Before arranging for a lab test, check the Quality Status List (QSL) first to see if your NSN/lot/batch has already been tested. If not, and you have a lot of inventory on hand, contact your DOD lab of choice for instructions on how to send them a sample for testing. If restoration is required, follow the procedures listed in the "Remarks" section on the MQCSS NSN data record, or look there for contact info for assistance.

### Training Key to Shelf-Life Success

One way to brush up or stay current is to get the latest DOD shelf-life training. Check out the training tab of the DOD shelf-life homepage at:

<https://headquarters.dla.mil/j-3/shelflife/Training.aspx>

You can also take a Defense Acquisition University computer-based (7-hour) training course. Go to:

[https://icatalog.dau.mil/onlinecatalog/courses.aspx?crs\\_id=1884](https://icatalog.dau.mil/onlinecatalog/courses.aspx?crs_id=1884)

Select the "Apply for this Course" button at the top right. This will take you to the Army Training Requirements and Resources System (ATRRS). Follow the instructions there.

If you need hands-on training, LOGSA PSCC offers an onsite one-day workshop, "Basic Principles of Shelf-Life Operations." This class can bring your activity up-to-speed on proper DOD and Army shelf-life management procedures and techniques. To request onsite training, contact LOGSA PSCC at DSN 795-7685/7144, (570) 615-7685/7144, or email: [toby.pt@us.army.mil](mailto:toby.pt@us.army.mil)