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The USBC Supplement – History, Usage, Features, and Future – Bruce Gregg #248

History: The two Supplements were created from the electronic data used to publish the original two volumes of the United States Beer Cans Volume 1 (V1) and Volume 2 (V2), published in 2001 and 2007 respectively. Volume 1 is the Standard Reference to Flat Top and Cone Top Beer Cans and Volume 2 is the Standard Reference to Tab Top Beer Cans.

Each of these Volumes took six years to research, photograph, and publish the information. These undertakings were significant and brought out a good majority of the can labels that were manufactured. However, with these publications came the opportunity for members to identify cans that were unavailable, missed or unknown of during the original book projects. It is the drive to capture these "missing cans" that gave birth to the Supplement Project. In today's day and age, the only practical and economic way to present this new material is via the internet. "Missing Cans" are identified and entered into the USBC Supplement V1 and USBC Supplement V2 accordingly. It is these "New Books" that are presented on this website.

Usage: Volume 1 highlights the following style can containers: Flats, Cones, Crowntainers, Quarts, Pints, Big Cans, Small Cans, and Gallons. Volume 2 highlights can: 7 & 8 oz, 10,11,12 oz, 14, 15, 16 oz, 24 & 32 oz, 5 Liter, Sets, Commemorative Cans, Reunion Cans, and Test Cans. In general each can category is laid out in sequence alphabetically, by age, by product type, by city and state. Cans are assigned a seven digit number that include the Volume, page, position, and a final digit indicating a new addition. Cans originally displayed in V1 and V2 now end in a "0" with this 7 digit numbering system. New additions are assigned a final digit between 1 and 9.

Additions to the V1 and V2 Supplement are shown in three formats, each outlined in read boarders.

- New Can – Red boarder around entire can image and mandatories plus a beige background
- Upgraded Image – Red border around image
- Mandatory Change – Red boarder around mandatories

Part of the mission of this work is to re-photograph all 7500 images in each volume to introduce 5 Views of each can (4 sides and the top). Each of the new cans added as well as upgraded images are displayed with 5 views. Click on one of these can images and you will see a detailed view of its front face. Click again on this image and the 5 Views of the can will be displayed.

A Can Search capability is now available for both the USBC Supplement V1 and USBC Supplement V2. Search features include can identifier (7 digit #), Type, Brand, Brewery, City,

and State. Each Supplement Volume has its own Can Search dropdown. So, try typing in your favorite brand, your city, or your state. Take a can off your shelf and enter it into the Search tool. See if your can matches one in the book or if there is a subtle difference.

The original V1 & V2 books are included in the drop downs only as a reference to answer the question of "what was changed" from the published book. V1 & V2 are never to be changed and represent the original publications only. Searches of V1 & V2 would be akin to searching a partially written book. V1 & V2 are in essence contained within the two Supplement packages and the Can Search capabilities are focused on the two Supplement packages.

Future: A new Rainier Section is under development since the Portland Canvention (2016) and a great deal of progress has been made to date. This brand as well as Esslinger's and Schmidt was not covered in depth in the published edition because of lack of brand clarity at the time as well as the relative volume of the number of labels involved.

Also starting early development is a section that will cover the 2015 OCOC (One Can One Country) display at the Milwaukee Canvention. This will contain cans from all over the world.

Closing Thought: If you have a can that is not in either of the Supplements, please let us know and one of our team members will follow up with you. Please contact John Page for flats or cones (jpjoeybo@aol.com), Jim Wolf for tabs (jwolf@goeaston.net), or Bruce Gregg (btgregg@earthlink.net).

Respectfully submitted,
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Product Development Chair