



USBC Supplement: It Takes All Sorts

One of the key features of the USBC Supplement is its ability to sort on any data parameter within its system. This allows a collector to make a query for a specific set of information. These days many collectors focus on a specific city or state, which is easy with the USBC.

There are currently 7 categories presented in the USBC. Each of these comes with a Can Search dropdown with the data parameters for that category. You may search on any one or any combination of these parameters, i.e., city and state, etc.

To access the USBC Supplement from the new BCCA Home page, click on the "MORE" button [1] in the top navigation, and then click on "USBC Supplement Page" in the drop-down menu [2]. On the next page click the blue "USBC Supplement" link in the center of the page [3], which takes you to the USBC site. Next click on the SEARCH drop-down menu to see the list of categories [4]. Clicking a category will take you to that specific page [5].

Depending on your interests, you can search for unique groups such as Tax Cans, Opening Instruction Cans, Flats, Cones, Can Type, Top Type or size. You can also search for all the changes made from the original books, such as Cans Added, Image Changed and Mandatories changed—or even for specific phrases on the can. Please note: After a search, be sure to hit the "Clear Selections" button before going on to the next query. Sometimes the next entry doesn't work so well if you don't fully clear the previous search.

In the upper left of the can search page is a dropdown for some Predefined Searches. Some of these might work as is for you or help you phrase your entry in the Custom Search fields [6].

Several choices for Output Displays are on the right side of the Can Search page. You can select the Sort Order and the page layout and set the number of Output Columns. (Only so many images can fit on a cell phone at any one time, but a larger number is obtainable on a desktop.) This ability can minimize scrolling right to left quite a bit. You can also select the number of cans displayed on a page, again allowing an easier scroll to view a larger group.

The USBC images can be displayed in two different formats: You can select **either** a Book Page Layout with Mandatories under each item **or** a Spreadsheet Layout displaying individual data parameters along with an image of the item [7]. **Or** you can opt to see **both** of these displays; the Book Page Layout will be shown first, then you scroll down to the Spreadsheet Layout.

Over the past 10 years the Search Capability functions have been revised, upgraded and improved. For those who might wish to explore the past, the Vol. 1 and Vol. 2 pages have an Old Search function located directly under the page title.

There are over 215,000 pictures currently on the USBC, and the potential for growth is limitless. Our future plans are to place the New Cans Database on the USBC Platform. The Ncdb just passed 53,000 entries, with an approximate average of 3 shots per can. In round numbers, that will be an additional 160,000 images.

In our next USBC online article we will discuss "Global Search," where queries can be made simultaneously across all categories within the database. 'Til then.....

If you have questions or suggestions, please contact Bruce Gregg at btgregg@earthlink.net.

