



Metal Can Defects

Identification and Classification

New

30/04/89

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual has been prepared to assist quality control and inspection personnel tasked to evaluate the integrity of rigid metal cans. Can integrity - the ability of the can to deliver safe wholesome food to the consumer - may be compromised by a wide variety of defects. These defects may arise throughout the various stages of can manufacture, filling, closing, processing, and handling before the can reaches the consumer. The defect types are arranged into seven different sections to reflect the stage in which the defect is likely to originate.

The material presented in this manual will:

- 1) provide a base for assessment of container integrity using specific criteria;
- 2) assist in communicating the specific defect conditions which may be found using standardized terminology; and
- 3) provide a severity classification of the various defect types using standard criteria.

The classification standards used in this manual are those defect classifications which Canadian packers are expected to apply. Imported canned products will be assessed with the same classification standards applied to Canadian domestic products.