The Serial Shipping Container Code (SSCC) can be used by companies to identify a logistic unit, which can be any combination of trade items packaged together for storage and/or transport purposes; for example a case, pallet or parcel.

- The SSCC is a crucial key for traceability, since it uniquely identifies each distributed logistic unit and its content.
- The SSCC enables companies to track each logistic unit for efficient order and transport management.
- The SSCC can be encoded in a barcode or EPC/RFID tag, ensuring the logistic unit can be accurately and easily identified as it travels between trading partners, anywhere in the world.
- When SSCC data is shared electronically via EDI or EPCIS, this enables companies to share information about the status of logistic units in transit, and reliably link it to related transport information such as shipment details.

- The SSCC enables companies to link to additional information about the logistic unit. This information can be communicated via a Despatch Advice or Advanced Shipping Notice (ASN) prior to the logistic unit’s arrival. Upon receipt the SSCC will be scanned, providing the required information to speed up the receipt of goods as well as the subsequent invoicing process.

THE SSCC IS FULLY COMPATIBLE WITH ISO/IEC 15459 – PART 1: UNIQUE IDENTIFIERS FOR TRANSPORT UNITS. THIS IS OFTEN REFERRED TO AS THE ISO LICENCE PLATE AND IS A PREREQUISITE FOR TRACKING AND TRACING LOGISTIC UNITS IN MANY INTERNATIONAL SUPPLY CHAINS.