## **Template:Cage description**

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The **Commercial and Government Entity Code**, or **CAGE** Code, is a unique identifier assigned to suppliers to various government or defense agencies, as well as to government agencies themselves and also various organizations. CAGE codes provide a standardized method of identifying a given facility at a specific location.

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CAGE Codes are used internationally as part of the NATO Codification System (NCS), where they are sometimes called **NCAGE Codes**. CAGE codes are referenced in various databases of the NCS, where they are used along with the supplier's part number to form a reference which is held on the National Stock Number (NSN) record. This reference enables users of the NCS to determine who supplies any given part.

The information associated with the entities - name, address, phone numbers, etc. - is catalogued in the H4 and H8 Handbooks. The National Codification Bureau (NCB) of each NATO or NATO-sponsored Nation is responsible for the maintenance of the CAGE code information for entities in these respective countries. There are on the order of 1.5 Million entities in this catalog.

Within the US, any organization wishing to be a supplier to the DoD is issued a CAGE Code by Defense Logistics Information Service (DLIS), the organization serving as the US NCB. An entity issued a CAGE code must reapply annually to renew it.

CAGE is sometimes expanded as "Commercial Activity/Government Entity", "Contractor And Government Entity", or other, similar variations. According to the DLIS website, "Commercial And Government Entity" is the proper term. CAGE was previously known as **Federal Supply Code for Manufacturers**, or **FSCM**, which was also the **National Supply Code for Manufacturer**, or **NSCM**. On older engineering drawings (pre-1980s) it was labeled simply as "Code Ident No" (Code Identification Number).