

Hints and Tips: Bar Codes

HOW TO WRITE BC:OCA BAR CODES

The following is sample PPFA code for a BCOCA bar code object. This particular code sample produces a 3 of 9 bar code.

```
/*--
/*-- Barcode Section - Characters include the following values --*/
/*--
/*-
/*
FIELD START 894 LENGTH 12 /* Bar Code for inserter
POSITION 1070 PELS 2200 PELS
BARCODE BAR1 TYPE CODE39 HRI ON HEIGHT 120 PELS
SSASTERISK ON MODWIDTH 10 RATIO 200;
```

There are several bar code types from which to choose. They are:

Bar Code Type	Description
CODE39	Automatic Identification Manufacturers Uniform Symbol Specification - 39
MSI	Modified Plessy
UPCA	Universal Product Code United States & Canadian Grocery Version A
UPCE	Universal Product Code United States & Canadian Grocery Version E
UPC2SUPP	Universal Product Code United States 2 digit Supplemental (periodicals)
UPC5SUPP	Universal Product Code United States 5 digit Supplemental (paperbacks)
EAN8	European Article Numbering 8 (Japanese Article Numbering Short)
EAN13	European Article Numbering 13 (Japanese Article Numbering Standard)
IND2OF5	Industrial 2 of 5
MAT2OF5	Matrix 2 of 5
ITL2OF5	Interleaved 2 of 5. Automatic Identification Manufacturers Uniform Symbol Specification - I 2/5
CDB2OF7	Codabar 2 of 7
CODE128	Code 128
EAN2SUP	European Article Numbering 2 digit Supplemental
EAN5SUB	European Article Numbering 5 digit Supplemental
Postnet	POSTal Numeric Encoding Technique (United States Postal Service)
RM4SCC	4-state customer code defined by the Royal Mail Postal Service of England





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There are several parameters which may or may not be required for the proper formatting of the bar code.

Parameter	Description
MOD	Specifies additional processing information about the bar code to be generated such as whether a check-digit should be generated.
HRI	Specifies if human readable text should be generated and where it will be placed
SSASTERISK	Specifies if an asterisk is to be generated as the 'start' and 'stop' characters for the CODE39
HEIGHT	Specifies the height of a bar code element.
MODWIDTH	Specifies the width of the smallest defined bar code element using thousandths of an inch. This specifies how wide the narrowest bar is to be.
RATIO	Specifies the width of the wide to narrow bar code elements. This is specified in whole numbers. A ratio of 200 equates to a wide to narrow ratio of 2:1, a ratio of 250 equals a ratio of 2.5:1.

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