

IBC Tote Identification

The composite totes (bottle-in-cage IBC) that are used in North America are generally manufactured by Schuetz Container Systems, Mauser Group, or Greif Bros. Corporation. There are other manufacturers, but these three comprise over 95% of the container used. These three manufacturers produce bottles which have required us to manufacture three different styles of liners to match their bottles.

The bottles and cages may be switched during cleaning procedures so do not rely on the metal cage markings to identify the bottle manufacturer. If the manufacturer's name is not molded onto the bottle, identification can most easily be done by examining the discharge valve. The pictures below identify each:



These first two pictures are what we identify as the "NEW STYLE" Schuetz bottle. The valve is a molded single-piece valve in which the entire valve must be rotated to loosen or tighten it to the bottle. The bottle opening has a tab at the 2 o'clock mark that is used to lock the valve to the bottle.



These next two pictures (above) identify the “OLD STYLE” Schuetz bottle. The valve has an independent metal collar which can spin to loosen or tighten the valve to the bottle.



These three pictures show a variety of valves that are used on the Mauser and Greif bottles. They may be a molded single-piece valve or have independent metal collars. They may be “butter-fly” valves, ball valves, or cylinder valves; clock-wise respectively.

To reiterate, identifying the valve is only important so that you know the correct bottle manufacturer. If the tote you possess is purchased directly from the manufacturer, identification is easy. However, many of the totes in circulation are “reconditioned” totes, either the bottle has been replaced or cleaned. If that is the case, a bottle from one manufacturer may be placed in a cage from another manufacturer. Each of the three bottles have a different discharge opening which require us to manufacture liners with different discharge spouts.



The liners above represent the different discharge openings. From left to right:

Left : Mauser

Center : Schuetz "old style"

Right : Schuetz "new style"