Decoding the Print Legends of Premises Copper Category Cables

The easiest way to decode the print legend found on copper premises cables is to break it down into its individual segments. Print legends are required to appear at intervals of no more than two feet.

The following print legend is typical of what you would find on a premises copper category cable manufactured by Superior Essex. In this example, we will review the print legend found on the Superior Essex DataGain® CAT 6+ CMR design.

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0000 FT (000.0 M) ▉▉ ID#AA00 ▉▉ DATAGAIN CAT 6+ 4 PR 23
     SUPERIOR ESSEX (UL) c(UL) CMR Verified (UL) CAT 6
              XXX _-H MADE IN USA CAT 6
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JACKET PRINT SEGMENT	EXPLANATION
0000 FT (000.0 M)	QuickCount® sequential markings in feet (FT) and meters (M) QuickCount is the Superior Essex sequential marking system that counts from 1000 ft (305 m) to 0 ft (0 m), reflecting the quantity left in the box.
▉▉ ID#AA00 ▉▉	CableID® unique 4 position code CableID is a Superior Essex product feature which identifies each box of cable using a unique 4-position code.
DATAGAIN CAT 6+	Product code
4 PR 23	Pair count and AWG
SUPERIOR ESSEX	Manufacturer name
(UL) CMR	NEC / UL Fire Resistance Ratings (safety rating) Listing by an Nationally Recognized Test Laboratory (NRTL) is required for cables used within the premises (commercial or residential).
c(UL)	UL Mark that identifies the cable as meeting the specified Fire Resistance Rating of both the National Electric Code (NEC) and Canadian Standards Association (CSA) (dual listed)
Verified (UL) CAT 6	Identifies the cable as verified by UL to meet the electrical performance for CAT 6 (ANSI/TIA 568-C.2) UL Verification is optional
XXX	Date of manufacture in Julian format
_	Last digit of the year of manufacture
-H	Superior Essex manufacturing facility code
MADE IN USA	Identifies the cable as manufactured in America
CAT 6	The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) requires that the Category be printed at one foot intervals.