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FORTIETH REPORT TO CONGRESS

(January 1 Through June 30, 1972)

OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

In Accordance With Section 2455, Title 10, U.S.C.
(Formerly Section 8 of Public Law 426, 82d Congress)

ON THE

DEFENSE CATALOGING AND STANDARDIZATION ACT OF 1952

REPORT

OF THE

ARMED SERVICES INVESTIGATING SUBCOMMITTEE

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND CONGRESS
SECOND SESSION

SEPTEMBER 1, 1972

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

WASHINGTON, D.C., *August 15, 1972.*

Hon. F. EDWARD HÉBERT,
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: As prescribed by Section 2455, Title 10, United States Code, there is transmitted herewith the Fortieth Semiannual Report on the Department of Defense Cataloging and Standardization Programs. This Report covers the period from January 1 through June 30, 1972.

Reports on these two programs have been combined in accordance with the provisions of Section 2455. Inasmuch as the Congress in its legislation directed that the Secretary of Defense report any other data which he considers will best inform Congress on the status of the Cataloging and the Standardization Programs, there is included information concerning such Department of Defense Programs as Materiel Utilization, NATO Codification, Item Entry Control and Provisioning Screening. These programs are directly associated with the development and/or utilization of cataloging or standardization data and have been initiated to provide additional means to insure more effective utilization of materiel resources.

Sincerely,

BARRY J. SHILLITO,
Assistant Secretary of Defense
(Installations and Logistics).

FORTIETH SEMIANNUAL REPORT—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CATALOGING AND STANDARDIZATION PROGRAMS, JANUARY 1 - JUNE 30, 1972

Federal Catalog Program

ITEMS MANAGED BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

During the reporting period 164,143 items were added to and 175,257 items were delted from the U.S. Government portion of the Federal Catalog System files. This resulted in a Government-wide inventory of 4,061,266 items, a net decrease of 11,114 during the period. This total includes Federal Stock Numbers (FSNs) assigned to itmes managed by the Civil Agencies as well as to items managed by the Department of Defense (DoD).

SEMIACTIVE ITEMS

This report contains a new category of items called "semiactive." A semiactive item is defined as a potentially inactive Federal Stock Numbered item of supply which must be retained in the system as an item of supply because stocks of the item are in-use or on-hand below the wholesale level. The item is not currently stocked at the wholesale level nor is future wholesale stockage authorized. Although the semiactive items are included in the active totals, it is now possible to more clearly identify active items at the wholesale level. Also the efficacy of efforts to reduce the total number of active items within the system will become more readily apparent.

FEDERAL CATALOG SYSTEM TOTALS

In addition to the 4,061,266 items managed by the U.S. Government, 340,082 items were recorded in the central Federal Catalog System files as being managed solely by NATO countries or agencies, or by other friendly nations. Thus, 4,401,348 FSNs represented active items of supply as of 30 June 1972 and includes 32,606 semiactive items. The central files also contained 1,817,042 item identifications in an inactive status (without recorded managers). Item identification requests from participating activities are being screened in a single processing cycle against both active and inactive identifications in the total file of 6,218,390 items. The matching of incoming new submittals (requests for FSN assignment) against inactive item identification makes possible the reactivation of some inactive numbers, thus avoiding assignment of new FSNs.

ITEMS MANAGED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

The ending inventory for this reporting period indicates 3,754,857 items, including 32,605 semiactive items, managed by DoD, a net

decrease of 6,217. This was the result of 159,310 additions to and 165,527 deletions from the Federal Catalog File. 137,655 of the 159,310 additions were accounted for by assignment of FSNs to new item identifications. The remaining were reactivations of inactive item identifications and reinstatement of previously cancelled items.

ANALYSIS OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ITEMS

As of the end of the reporting period, and within the total of 3,754,-857 DoD item identifications, there were 2,879,274 which reflected items subject to central procurement, management, storage and issue. Of this latter quantity, 182,646 were designated as having no requirement for future procurement and should become inactive when existing stocks are exhausted.

CHRONOLOGY OF ITEMS USED BY THE MILITARY SERVICES

The following table reflects the total quantities of items recorded in the central files of the Federal Catalog System as being used by the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps on the 30th day of June for the years 1969 through 1972. The figures include items for which the military services operate as their own inventory managers and also those items for which the military services operate only as retail managers.

Military service	June 30, 1969	June 30, 1970	June 30, 1971	June 30, 1972
Army	1,259,889	1,233,378	1,089,542	975,902
Navy	1,606,253	1,638,168	1,573,024	1,649,461
Air Force	1,781,090	1,802,578	1,794,784	1,718,072
Marine Corps	300,863	283,606	266,237	273,422

COMMONALITY OF ITEMS AMONG THE MILITARY SERVICES

The total shown for each military service includes many stock numbers which are used also by one or more of the other three services and which are, therefore, included in their totals as well. The degree to which this commonality exists among the services is revealed by the following table:

Military service	Total	Used also by 1 or more of the other services	Percentage commonality
Army	975,902	448,963	46.0
Navy	1,649,461	529,448	32.1
Air Force	1,718,072	565,153	32.9
Marine Corps	273,422	188,643	69.0

ITEMS MANAGED BY THE DEFENSE SUPPLY AGENCY

Of the 3,754,857 items recorded in the central files as being managed by DoD, on 30 June 1972, 2,563,828 items, or 68.3 percent were in the 293 commodity classes assigned to the general cognizance of the DSA for integrated materiel management. Of these, 1,745,676 items or 68.1 percent were designated for central management by DSA, including 83,950 items which were designated by DSA as authorized

for local procurement. The remaining 31.9 percent are retained for management by the military services.

OTHER ITEMS SUBJECT TO INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT

On 30 June 1972 there were 2,791 items in the three classes of tires and tubes assigned to the U.S. Army Tank-Automotive Command (USATACOM). USATACOM's mission includes integrated management of items peculiar to combat and tactical vehicles of Army design in any FSC class. USATACOM is presently recorded as the integrated manager for 44,992 items in other classes.

GSA has been assigned integrated materiel management for 68 FSC classes. At the end of the reporting period, there were 87,449 DoD items in these classes and GSA was recorded as the integrated manager for 57,317 of these items.

ITEMS MANAGED BY THE CIVIL AGENCIES

As the central processing office for the Federal Catalog System, DLSC reviews, screens, approves, and assigns FSNs to item identifications generated by Civil Agencies. GSA prepares and submits catalog data on behalf of all Civil Agencies except the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Coast Guard which prepare and submit their own data directly to DLSC. At the end of the reporting period, the central files included 306,409 items recorded as being managed by Civil Agencies only, and an additional 180,283 items managed in common with DoD, or a total of 486,692 items. During the reporting period, 15,547 items were reported as entering the Civil Agency supply system and 18,601 as being deleted, resulting in a net decrease of 3,054 items.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE FEDERAL CATALOG SYSTEM

At the end of the period, the central cataloging files and processing operations were serving the needs of 66 wholesale and retail materiel managers in DoD and 80 in the Civil Agencies. In certain commodity areas, proposed new and revised DoD item identifications are first reviewed by the cognizant Defense Technical Review Activity (DTRA), as a function of the DoD Item Entry Control Program, before being forwarded to the central cataloging files for final review, and assignment of FSNs when appropriate. Currently there are 10 DTRAs and each DTRA is a satellite submitter on the wire service of an established cataloging activity. In addition, cataloging services were furnished to 11 NATO countries, 4 other friendly foreign nations, and 2 NATO agencies.

MANUFACTURERS' DATA

Latest records show 81,494 currently valid manufacturers' codes in the Cataloging Handbook, Federal Supply Code for Manufacturers (FSCM). The FSCM is a coding system of five-digit numbers assigned to establishments which are manufacturers of items of supply procured by agencies of the Federal Government. Represented in the publication are 53,225 U.S. and Canadian manufacturers. The remaining 28,273 identify manufacturers in other NATO countries and other friendly nations, Of the total number of assigned manufacturers'

codes, 34,706 are referenced in the central files to 9,406,846 manufacturers' part or reference numbers. These reference numbers are cross-referenced to 6,092,871 Federal Stock Numbers (FSNs). The remaining 125,519 FSNs in the central screening files represent items not requiring reference numbers for identification purposes. Of the 81,494 valid manufacturers' codes, 22,331 have been assigned 3,523 association codes, indicating that these manufacturers' codes relate to manufacturers who are members of a larger corporate complex, each association code representing one such complex. In cataloging operations, these association codes help reveal duplicates which otherwise would give the appearance of being separate and distinct items.

AUTOMATED UPDATE

During this reporting period, DLSC has released 29,181 Verification of Manufacturers Status inquiries, of which 10,025 were returned for maintenance processing. The aforementioned is a result of the second automated update cycle.

CONSOLIDATED MANUFACTURERS/NONMANUFACTURERS FILE

DLSC has initiated a consolidated Federal Supply Code for Manufacturers/Federal Supply Code for Nonmanufacturers (FSCM/FSCNM) File entitled Handbook for Nongovernment Organization Codes for Military Standard Contract Administration Procedures (MILSCAP). The basic publication contains approximately 110,000 coded facilities and is used in the mechanical interchange of data required by MILSCAP and the agencies/activities Automated Data Processing Systems.

MANUFACTURERS' PART AND DRAWING NUMBERING SYSTEMS

The Cataloging Handbook, H–7, now contains 475 summaries of numbering systems. Some of these pertain to the entire corporate complex and others pertain only to one facility. There are 3,113,894 reference numbers and 2,788,350 Federal Stock Numbers recorded against the FSCMs assigned to the manufacturers utilizing these numbering systems.

FEDERAL CATALOG SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

The following paragraphs detail actions taken during the reporting period to improve the comprehensiveness, quality, accuracy, responsiveness, efficiency and utilization of the Federal Catalog System.

DEFENSE INTEGRATED MATERIEL MANAGEMENT OF CONSUMABLE ITEMS

In connection with the Defense Integrated [Materiel Management of Consumable Items Program which proposes to eliminate item management duplication at the wholesale level, changes have been made to the Federal Catalog System policies and procedures to assist in accomplishing the program's objectives. Some of the steps which have been taken are:

(*a*) Federal Manual for Supply Cataloging has been revised to provide procedures, codes and definitions for cataloging weapons systems oriented items under the integrated management concept.

(*b*) Establishment of a Joint Service Multi-Management Resolution Central Processor (M–MRCP) at DLSC to accumulate data, process such data and thereby control the events associated with the initial weapons item manager assignments.

(*c*) Federal Supply Classification (FSC) 5895 was split. From this split, FSC 5865 was established as a new weapons systems oriented class to include Electronic Countermeasures Equipment. FSC 5895 was retained as a commodity oriented class.

FEDERAL ITEM NAME DIRECTORY FOR SUPPLY CATALOGING

During this reporting period Cataloging Handbook H6 was published by means of the Electronic Composing System. Distribution of the handbook was accomplished two months ahead of the scheduled target date, thereby creating a cost avoidance of $21,160 through the cancellation of a requirement to publish Supplement Volume No. 3. In addition, the electronic mechanization of total data contained in the handbook offers the potential of current data being disseminated to field activities in the shortest response time frame. Under the Defense Integrated Data System (DIDS) the mechanized file format will be readily converted to the new Computer Output Microfilm (COM) equipment for microfiche publication. Publication by the electronic method resulted in a reduction in the size of the handbook by 748 pages or a total reduction of 35 percent. The new handbook presents current data in a single source document on a timely basis.

MECHANIZED CHARACTERISTICS SCREENING

Since the first of January, DLSC has had the capability to screen and compare descriptive data of proposed new, revised or reinstated item identification with existing items in the mechanized file for Federal Stock Number assignment purposes.

The capability currently extends to FIIG A001, Resistors; FIIG A010, Capacitors; FIIG A021, Nuts, FIIG A022, Washers; FIIG A059, Crystals; and FIIG A212, Keys and Pins. The item population for these FIIGs is approximately 420,000. Seven (7) additional FIIGs are in development for this operation and will be operational early in FY 73.

The mechanized characteristics screening capability is an adjunct to the reference number screening operation in the ADP mode in DLSC since 1957. With mechanized characteristics screening, DLSC uses ADP facilities instead of manual file searching and screening for the bulk of its FSN assignment responsibilities in the above FIIGs. Manual review is still required, but only in those instances where machine matches are detected, or about 30% of all incoming proposed new, revised or reinstated item identifications. The combined decisions of the mechanized characteristics and reference number screening operations permit the remaining 70% of item identification transactions to be processed without manual review.

The operation is currently restricted to FSN assignment purposes but is an important building block for the Defense Integrated Data System (DIDS).

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REPRODUCTION OF DESCRIPTIVE METHOD ITEM IDENTIFICATIONS

Four types of equipment (computer document reader, automatic film processor, document printer and computer printer) used for processing and printing descriptive method item identifications continue to operate satisfactorily. During this reporting period, 3,782,000 card copies of original, revised and cancelled descriptive method item identifications were processed and distributed to interested activities. In addition, 795,946 copies of original and revised descriptive item identifications were reproduced by electrostatic copier.

FEDERAL SUPPLY CLASSIFICATION (FSC)

As previously mentioned, during this reporting period one new Federal Supply Classification (FSC) class was established. The new class is FSC 5865 titled: "Electronic Countermeasures Equipment." This class includes, and is restricted to, passive and active electronic equipment, systems, and subsystems designed to prevent or reduce an enemy's effective use of radiated electromagnetic energy or designed to insure our own effective use of radiated electromagnetic energy. The FSC structure is currently comprised of 76 Groups containing 592 classes.

BOOK-TYPE FEDERAL SUPPLY CATALOG PUBLICATIONS

Master Cross Reference Lists (RLs), as described in preceding reports, have been produced and forwarded to using activities as scheduled. The basic issue for 1972 has been compiled and forwarded for both the consolidated and service tailored versions. The present schedule designates production of the basic document annually with three quarterly cumulative updates and will be discontinued after Change Notice #3 is issued. All hard copies (book-type) are prepared by the Government Printing Office using the Electronic Composing System.

The RL, Part One (Reference Number to FIIN) is also prepared on microfilm, and is currently being furnished to 72 subscribers. Part Two (FIIN to Reference Number) of the RL is being furnished 62 customers. In addition to the above, the Army is now receiving formatted magnetic tapes of the RL to facilitate the creation of microfilm. Magnetic tapes of the 1972 RL were also furnished to the Department of Commerce for sale to the general public (RL, Part One only). Magnetic tapes of the 1972 RL were furnished to DAASO (Part One only). Magnetic tapes of the July, semi-annual issue were furnished the Department of Navy. The RL, Part One and Two was made available on microfiche beginning with the January 1972 semi-annual issue. There were 7 fiche customers for the January 1972 semi-annual issue.

RECORDING OF STANDARDIZATION DECISIONS

During the current reporting period, 244,893 standardization decisions were recorded by the central repository. Standardization decisions are recorded in the central files and disseminated to registered users of the items following submittal of these decisions by the preparing activity.

MATERIEL UTILIZATION

The central mechanized screening system, Program PLUS, provides a mechanized means of matching potential and/or declared excess assets of one Service/Agency against the requirements of another user within the Department of Defense. Mechanized matching is keyed on the FIIN portion of the FSNs; therefore, the Federal Catalog System provides the base which makes the system possible.

During the reporting period, releasable assets valued at $154 million were offered to satisfy reported requirements of materiel managers. During the same period, DLSC received transaction reports indicating that materiel offered and valued at approximately $110 million had been accepted for transfer and utilization in lieu of new procurement.

Another facet of the Defense Materiel Utilization Program is the manual screening of declared excess. As mentioned above, the mechanized system is keyed to the FIIN portion of the FSN, while the manual system uses the complete FSN. During the reporting period, $166 million worth of assets were offered via the manual system, with $79 million being transferred.

PROVISIONING SCREENING

During the reporting period, 2,805,401 manufacturers' reference numbers were screened against the master files in support of provisioning actions; 1,140,248 or 40.6 percent, were matched to existing FSNs. There were 572,693 FSNs screened for the same purpose. Additionally, there were 1,513,905 manufactueres' reference numbers screened against the master file, of which 752,541 or 49.7 percent, matched existing FSNs, for purposes other than provisioning; i.e., to obtain management data recorded in the master file, such as item user information, validation of FSNs, standardization decisions, related manufacturers' codes and reference numbers and to provide support to procurement. Also, there were 1,528,040 FSNs screened for this purpose.

In addition to the above, provisioning screening also provides the capability (by matching reference numbers to FSNs) for the screening of Program PLUS files to ascertain the availability of assets for materiel utilization purposes. During this reporting period, assets were found to exist for 12.4 percent of the FSNs matched.

PARTICIPATION IN THE NATO CODIFICATION SYSTEM

During the reporting period, 47,396 numbers (reference number or FSN) were processed against the central files; 420,712 ownership registrations were processed and the pertinent EAM file data on cards or ADP tape were furnished; and 8,041 original item identifications were prepared under the applicable international agreements.

As of 30 June 1972, a gross total of 2,155,968 management registrations were recorded to 11 NATO countries, 10 other friendly foreign governments and 1 NATO agency. The quantity of management registrations by country or agency was as follows:

NATO countries:		Other Friendly Governments:	
Belgium	280, 231	Austrailia	397, 154
Canada	106, 687	Japan	13, 624
Denmark	2, 319	Brazil [1]	60
France	222, 308	Israel [1]	11, 606
Greece	5, 096	South Korea [1]	79
Netherlands	703	South Africa	40, 745
Germany	561, 996	Iran [1]	131
Italy	62, 287	Philippines [1]	21
Norway	271, 197	Spain [1]	261
United Kingdom	127, 274	New Zealand	3, 149
Turkey	5, 370	NATO Agency: NATO Supply Center	43, 670

[1] DLSC does not furnish catalog services to these friendly foreign governments. Management registration in the DLSC files was recorded by the U.S. Military Services under the Foreign Military Sales Program.

The net total of FSNs with registered foreign managers was 1,171,996. Of this total, 340,082 were managed solely by foreign governments and the remainder, 831,914 were managed by one or more U.S. activities well as by one or more foreign government(s).

FSC MICROFILM FILE

Beginning 1 January 1968, a film file of Federal Item Identifications was made available, organized by Federal Supply Code (FSC), to all DoD activities, civil agencies and other governmental and public agencies having requirements for item descriptions in this format and media. The basic file consists of 1,702 cartridges plus 250 in current update, covering item identifications in 76 Federal Supply Groups and 532 Classes. Activities are supplied with cartridges of 16mm microfilm the contents of which have been tailored to their specific requirements. A total of 174,693 cartridges have been provided in FY 72 (July through May) to the 72 subscribers for the 1971 basic issue and bi-monthly updates.

DEFENSE STANDARDIZATION PROGRAM

Department of Defense Directive 4120.3 sets forth policies and responsibilities governing the Defense Standardization Program. The program encompasses a wide range of activities affecting acquisition of all equipment and logistics support systems, Drawings, specifications, standards, handbooks, manuals, and other media, provide the technical base for the equipment design, production engineering, engineering practices, standards of performance and reliability, procurement, maintenance and logistics support.

Completed and active standardization projects

During this reporting period, 3,176 standardization projects were completed, involving 547 new military specifications, 1,652 military specifications revised or amended, 78 new federal specifications, 184 federal specifications revised or amended, 109 new military standards, 393 military standards revised or amended, 4 new military handbooks, 9 military handbooks revised and 200 studies (item reduction and engineering practices) completed. There are approximately 9,000 additional projects active or planned.

DOD index of specifications and standards

The DoD Index of Specifications and Standards currently lists 40,859 active documents. Among these, there are 25,463 military and

4,887 federal specifications, 6,845 military and 250 federal standards, 1,805 qualified products lists, 103 military and 1 federal handbook, 638 industry and 78 international standardization documents.

Number of separate specifications consolidated into single specifications

Fourteen (14) documents have been consolidated into 7. Since the passage of Public Law 436, 82nd Congress, 4,123 specifications have been consolidated into 1,550.

Overage documents

The review of specifications and standards which are 5 years old and have not been amended, revised or validated as up-to-date documents, are reviewed on a yearly basis. Of the 3,322 documents reviewed, 285 were cancelled, 223 are in process of cancellation, 1,996 were validated as still being current and 818 are to be revised or amended.

Management control systems and data requirements

Seven (7) documents were deleted from the Management Control Systems List (MCSL). Two (2) documents in the MCSL are scheduled for conversion to military standards (bookform). Elements of management control have been segregated in nine documents. Data requirements have been segregated in six documents.

ILLUSTRATIVE STANDARDIZATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Clean work stations, controlled environment, and related equipment

Military handbooks on Precision Cleaning Methods and Procedures (MIL–HDBK 407) and Microbial Deterioration in Electronics, Its Origin and Control (MIL–HDBK 408) have been published as companion documents to MIL–HDBK 406, Cleaning Materials for Precision Precleaning and Use in Clean Rooms and Clean Work Stations. Findings of data reviews which resulted in these documents are now to be utilized to provide data for specifications and standards to implement these handbooks. This effort in publication of documentation in the Contamination Control Technology Area will result in more utility of Precision Clean Rooms—Clean Work Stations and their related equipments. The handbooks and their implementing specifications and standards, currently being prepared, will provide both design engineers and clean room operators with a broad data base for optimum use of these precision cleaning facilities.

Coating compound, temporary protective for retrograde materials

A new specification, MIL–C–46157, has been published. It covers a temporary protective coating that would be easily removable and give 90–120 days protection to retrograde materials whose surfaces are painted, plated, or chemically treated. It can be used where air pollution regulations are in effect.

Lumber

A revision of specification MIL–L–14362D consolidated 13 loading methods into five combinations of three methods and also improved the clarity of requirements. Loading requirements now more closely comply with industry practices.

Steel tubing

Five industry specifications, ASTM A 511–71, A 512–66, A 513–70, A 519–71 and A 554–70, were adopted DoD-wide for use in military procurements. Acceptance of these industry documents will broaden the procurement base by making available specifications which reflect the latest industry practices and state-of-the-art. Also, duplication of standardization efforts by DoD and industry will be eliminated.

Communication circuit protectors

A new specification MIL–P–55624 and 11 detail specifications have been published. The new documents established improved protector designs and clarified requirements. The new specification superseded MIL–P–13110 under which protectors were purchased sole source. The change in requirements will allow several manufacturers to qualify.

Switches, preparation for delivery

A new specification MIL–S–28786 was prepared to specify military requirements for the preparation for delivery of all FSC 5930 switches and accessories. This document will replace the preservation, packaging and packing requirements in 60 individual switch specifications and will eliminate the need to continually update these documents.

Floating sorbents (for oil spill removal)

A new specification MIL–S–28600(YD) was prepared to describe sorbents to be used in removal of Navy oil spills. Performance characteristics and dimensional and toxicity considerations were evaluated and assigned minimum values. Appropriate tests were developed to assure conformance to values and to maintain a standard of quality. The document will provide necessary requirements for procurement of efficient, commercially available materials.

Microfilming of engineering and related documents, 16 mm. requirements for

A new specification MIL–M–46849 has been published. It consolidates the documentation used by each service to procure 16mm microfilm, and maintains design selection documents current with the state-of-the-art when design documentation is placed on microfilm. The document provides for quality assurance and reliability of the microfilm obtained by contract.

Air conditioners

A new MIL–STD–1408, Air Conditioners, Family of Environmental Control Units, General Application Characteristics, was issued to provide a guide to users for selecting air conditioners for field Army type applications and systems. The full use of this standard plays a prime role in the military standardization program being carried out by the Department of Defense. The use of air conditioners listed in the standard will eliminate item duplication. This publication includes all air conditioners for which characteristics have been established by the Army and which will be part of the standard family of military air conditioners. The data sheets give BTU/HR output and general application characteristics.

General purpose snapbooks

A new specification MIL–S–43770 with specification sheets MIL–S–43770/1 through MIL–S–43770/14 included requirements for all known general purpose snapbooks used on military equipment except special purpose snapbooks for aerial delivery equipment. This new specification included requirements formerly covered by MIL–S–2032, MIL–S–2578, MIL–S–11699, MIL–S–43403, MIL–S–43353, MIL–S–43384, MS 51828, and MS 70111. This new general specification with individual specification sheets for a specific style will facilitate procurement and simplify maintenance of the related procurement documents.

Test kit for measuring effectiveness of antifreeze

A new specification MIL–T–36812 was prepared for a special test kit to measure reserve alkalinity and remaining corrosion inhibition properties in antifreeze solutions used in military atuomotive coolant systems. Previous policy required drainage of the coolant subsequent to each cold weather season. Recent directives, however, now permit a 2-year retention period provided testing indicates a reserve in alkalinity and in corrosion inhibition properties. Substantial savings are anticipated using this procedure.

Circuit breakers

A new standard MIL–STD–1498 was developed as a guide for the choice and application of circuit breakers in military equipments. This is the first preferred parts standard in FSC Class 5925 and is intended to control and minimize the variety of circuit breakers in military vehicles, for aircraft, and shipboard use.

Adhesives

A new handbook MIL–HDBK–725, Adhesives, A guide to Their Properties and Uses, as Described by Federal and Military Specifications, has been published. It will promote item reduction and assist in developing interchangeability and substitutability criteria. The handbook provides a guide to information on the properties and uses of adhesives as described in federal and military specifications. The handbook will aid the adhesive technologist in selecting the appropriate specification for a given purpose. It should also be an aid in determining the need for new specifications, and in reducing the number of proprietary items in the supply system.

Shelter, equipment multipurpose

A new specification MIL–S–28633 has been issued to define the dimensions, function, design, construction and test performance of an equipment shelter in terms of commercially available cargo containers of size designation 1E in accordance with International Standards Organization (ISO) Recommendation R688. The 8 foot high by 8 foot long by 6⅔ foot wide shelter is capable of being joined side by side with two other size 1E shelters (coupled by means of four corner connecting devices included with each shelter) to form an integral and dimensionally equivalent 8 foot by 8 foot by 20 foot long module for containerization system handling operations. Double doors 3 foot wide by 7 foot high are incorporated in one 8 foot by 6⅔ foot end of the shelter. The multipurpose equipment shelters are intended to provide a weathertight portable facility for military advance base use. The

shelters are capable of transporting the equipment or items to the operational site and functioning as a protective storage facility both in transit and in on site use.

Cyclinders, compressed air

MIL–C–24447 was prepared to support an immediate procurement requirement. This specification covers requirements for steel compressed air cylinders for use by SCUBA divers that are not working in areas requiring attention to magnetic influences. The existing aluminum (non-magnetic) cylinders cost approximately $90.00 each. The steel cylinders will cost approximately $50.00 each. This results in an approximate saving of $100,000.00 the first year (based on buying 2,500 cylinders for replacement and additional stock) and $20,000.00 each year thereafter (based on buying 500 cylinders).

Life preserver

A new specification MIL–L–81787, Life Preserver, Inflatable, Utility, Type LPP–1A was prepared to support an immediate procurement requirement. This specification provides for a new type of utility inflatable life preserver which is designed for use by passengers in cargo or transport type aircraft, for sea survival situations, and may also be used, as required, by helicopter aircrewmen equipped with body armor. The life preserver will include a light with a water activated battery which upon becoming wet will cause the light to go on automatically. This allows for detection of injured personnel in the event of emergency ditching. Document is also expected to increase competition among the leading manufacturers of this type equipment.

DEFENSE ITEM ENTRY CONTROL PROGRAM

During the past several years, increased management attention has been focused on controlling the number of new items entering the logistics system. Illustrative of this is a continuing emphasis on the use of standard parts in new equipments by the Services. Steady progress has been made. During the last six months of FY 72, 125,490 new FSNs were assigned of which 94,891 (76%) were assigned to items in the 67 classes in the Defense Item Entry Control Program. The following examples summarize some of the areas of effort being emphasized.

Defense technical review activities

A comprehensive review of the Defense Technical Review Activities (DTRA) resulted in: reduction in number of DTRAs; reassignment of FSCs; deletion of FSCs; addition of FSCs, and; reduction in workload. As a result of the realignment manpower requirements were reduced 21 spaces, and classes responsible for 75–80% of the total new stock numbers are now covered by the Defense Item Entry Control Program. During this six month period, 132,953 requests for new Federal Stock Number assignments were reviewed. As a result, 27,947 (21.0%) were rejected as having a duplicate or acceptable replacement already in the system, and 21,857 (16.4%) items had catalog data errors requiring return to the submitter for correction, or correction bv the DTRA.

REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF SIZES, KINDS, AND TYPES OF ITEMS THAT ARE GENERALLY SIMILAR

As a result of item reduction studies, coordinated decisions were made during this reporting period to earmark for elimination 13,302 items from the DoD supply system. The central catalog data file currently records 96,502 items in this status awaiting removal from the system as stocks are attrited or the item becomes eligible for deletion through inactivity. Illustrative item reduction accomplishments follow.

Vehicular power transmission kits

Of the 624 items reviewed, 411 had insufficient data to make a characteristic comparison with other items of the remaining 213 items, 108, or 51% were designated as not authorized for procurement and were earmarked for deletion from the supply system. In addition, 67 duplicate FSN cancellation actions were processed.

Coils and transformers

Of the 744 items reviewed, 260, or 35%, were designated as not authorized for procurement and were earmarked for deletion from the supply system.

Fixed mica capacitors

Of the 2,063 items reviewed, 460, or 22%, were designated as not authorized for procurement and were earmarked for deletion from the supply system.

Fixed electrolytic capacitors

Of the 11,096 items reviewed, 2,280 had insufficient technical data to make a characteristic comparison with other items. Of the remaining 8,816 items, 2,738 items, or 31% were designated as not authorized for procurement and were earmarked for deletion from the supply system.

Radio frequency cable assemblies

Of the 3,192 items reviewed, 656 had insufficient technical data to make a characteristic comparison with other items. Of the remaining 2,536 items, 703 items, or 28%, were designated as not authorized for procurement and were earmarked for deletion from the supply system.

Oils and greases (cutting, lubricating and hydraulic)

Of the 322 items reviewed, 127 items, or 39%, were designated as not authorized for procurement and were earmarked for deletion from the supply system. In addition, 15 Federal Stock Numbers were processed for cancellation.

Split helical ring lock washers

Of the 1,654 items reviewed, 1,079 had insufficient technical data to make a characteristic comparison with other items. Of the remaining 575 items, 226 items, or 39% ,were designated as not authorized for procurement and were earmarked for deletion from the supply system.

Machine screws

Of the 568 items reviewed, 48 had insufficient technical data to make a characteristic comparison with other items. Of the remaining 520 items, 149 items, or 29% were designated as not authorized for procurement and were earmarked for deletion from the supply system.

Solid rubber sheet and strip

Of the 448 items reviewed, 25 had insufficient technical data to make a characteristic comparison with other items. Of the remaining 423 items, 92 items, or 22%, were designated as not authorized for procurement and were earmarked for deletion from the supply system.

Quick release pins

Of the 2,702 items reviewed, 136 had insufficient technical data to make a characteristic comparison with other items. Of the remaining 2,566 items, 707 items, or 28% were, designated as not authorized for procurement and were earmarked for deletion from the supply system.

PARTS CONTROL SYSTEMS

Integrated DoD-wide parts control system

The pilot implementation of the proposed DoD-wide Parts Control System to encourage the use of standard and preferred parts in new designs continues on schedule. Nonstandard parts data from new military developments under Phase I are being forwarded by the Military Departments to the Defense Electronics Supply Center for use in specification preparation. Based on parts usage trends indicated 155 standardization projects have been initiated to revise, amend, or prepare new specifications. Twenty-four projects have been completed—most within the accelerated time frame of from 4 to 7 months. Examples of common usage trends found were: micro-circuit parts and component sockets, thumb wheel switches and microwave tubes. Under Phase II, wherein parts advice is provided to the contractor, the Military Departments have nominated 24 systems. Indications are that this phase will have a high payoff (relative to cost) in usage of standard parts as opposed to nonstandard parts which would generate specially prepared drawings and add other DoD costs for maintenance and supply management.

Other trends toward establishment of a Military Parts Control Advisory Group (MPCAG) are evidenced by DESC-E assistance to Air Force Parts Control Board for major weapons system such as the B–1 and F–15 Aircraft, and working agreements for assistance on less than systems equipment for Electronic Systems Division (USAF) and the Naval Training Device Center.

Air Force parts control

The Air Force "Parts Control Program, MIL-STD–891," precludes parts proliferation during the design process by insuring that similar parts are identified by a common military specification; thereby, eliminating the need for each subcontractor to prepare drawings. Successful application of parts control in the electronics Federal Supply Classes (FSC) lead to the recent Air Force decision to expand the program to selected mechanical parts FSC's. A Program Management Directive was recently issued that expands the scope of the program to include mechanical parts from thirty-eight high growth FSC's.

U.S. Army missile parts control

An appendix to MIL–STD–680, Contractor Standardization Plans and Management, has been generated by the US Army Missile Command. This appendix encompasses all requirements and controls

necessary for an efficient item entry control program in the R&D phase. Prominent features of the appendix are a non-standard parts control request system which uses Preferred Parts Lists, an automated microfilm search system used by the contractor and a nonstandard parts request system easily adaptable to use in the DoD Parts Control System presently being pilot tested. The appendix can be used as contractual "boiler plate" including approved Data Items. Publication of the appendix as a part of MIL–STD–680 provides a means for other Army or DoD activities to adopt the system.

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