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FORTY-SECOND REPORT TO CONGRESS

(January 1 Through June 30, 1973)

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-THIRD CONGRESS
FIRST SESSION

SEPTEMBER 28, 1973

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Letter of Transmittal

WASHINGTON, D.C., *September 20, 1973.*

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 Forty-Second Semiannual Report on the Department of Defense Cataloging and Standardization Programs. This report covers the period from January 1 through June 30, 1973.

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 Standardization Programs, there is included information concerning such Department of Defense Programs as Materiel Utilization, Provisioning Screening, NATO Codification and Item Management Responsibilities. These programs are directly associated with the development and/or utilization of cataloging or standardization data and have been initiated to provide additional means of insuring more effective utilization of materiel resources.

Sincerely,

HUGH E. WITT,
Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense
(Installations and Logistics).

42nd SEMIANNUAL REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
CATALOGING AND STANDARDIZATION PROGRAMS
1 JANUARY - 30 JUNE 1973

FEDERAL CATALOG PROGRAM

ITEMS MANAGED BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

During the reporting period 114,525 item were added to and 147,776 items were deleted from the U.S. Government portion of the Federal Catalog System files. This resulted in a government-wide inventory of 3,940,455 items, a net decrease of 33,251 during the period. This total includes Federal Stock Numbers (FSNs) assigned to items managed by the Civil Agencies, as well as to items managed by the Department of Defense (DoD).

SEMIACTIVE ITEMS

This report contains a 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 items 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 3,940,455 items managed by the U.S. Government, 402,324 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, 4,342,779 FSNs represented active items of supply as of 30 June 1973 and include 56,388 semiactive items. The central files also contained 1,533,223 item identifications in an inactive status (without recorded managers). Item identification requests from participating activites are being screened in a single processing cycle

against both active and inactive identifications in the total file of 5,876,002 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 3,641,463 items, including 56,387 semiactive items, managed by DoD, a net decrease of 29,198. This was the result of 115,359 additions to and 144,557 deletions from the Federal Catalog File. 87,229 of the 115,359 additions were accounted for by assignment of FSNs to new item identifications. The remaining were reactivations of inactive item identifications and reinstatement of previously c .nceled items.

ANALYSIS OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ITEMS

As of the end of the reporting period, and within the total of 3,641,463 DoD item identifications, there were 2,847,530 which reflected items subject to central procurement, management, storage and issue. Of this latter quantity, 170,645 were designated as having no requirement for future procurement and should become inactive when existing wholesale 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 1970 through 1973. 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	30 June 1970	30 June 1971	30 June 1972	30 June 1973
Army	1,233,378	1,089,542	975,902	891,381
Navy	1,638,168	1,573,024	1,649,461	1,673,458
Air Force	1,802,578	1,794,784	1,718,072	1,683,224
Marine Corps	283,606	266,237	273,422	262,981

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 One or More of the Other Services	Percentage Commonality
Army	891,381	435,625	48.87
Navy	1,673,458	528,682	31.59
Air Force	1,683,224	559,315	33.23
Marine Corps	262,981	185,693	70.61

ITEMS MANAGED BY THE DEFENSE SUPPLY AGENCY

Of the 3,641,463 items recorded in the central files as being managed by DoD, on 30 June 1973, 2,479,619 items, or 68.1 percent were in the 295 commodity classes assigned to the general cognizance of the DSA for integrated materiel management. Of these, 1,738,312 items or 70.1 percent were designated for central management by DSA, including 48,939 items which were designated by DSA as authorized for local procurement. The remaining 29.9 percent are retained for management by the military services. During the reporting period two FSCs were designated for integrated management by the Defense Fuel Supply Center of DSA. The new FSCs (FSC 9130 and FSC 9140) in DSA are Bulk Petroleum Classes.

OTHER ITEMS SUBJECT TO INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT

On 30 June 1973 there were 2,653 items in the three classes of tire 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 46,462 items in other classes.

GSA has been assigned integrated materiel management for 68 FSC classes. At the end of the reporting period, there were 100,425 DoD items in these classes and GSA was recorded as the integrated manager for 69,664 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 298,992 items recorded as being managed by Civil Agencies only, and an additional 197,456 items managed in common with DoD, or a total of 496,448 items. During the reporting period, 32,409 items were reported as entering the Civil Agency supply system and 20,895 as being deleted, resulting in a net increase of 11,514 items.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE FEDERAL CATALOG SYSTEM

At the end of the period, the central cataloging files and processing operations are serving the needs of 65 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, 5 other friendly foreign nations, and 2 NATO agencies.

MANUFACTURERS' DATA

Latest records show 83,935 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 53,982 U.S. and Canadian manufacturers. The remaining 29,953 identify manufacturers in other NATO countries and other friendly nations. Of the total number of assigned manufacturers' codes, 34,698 are referenced in the central files to 9,584,857 manufacturers' part or reference numbers. These

reference numbers are cross-referenced to 5,788,739 Federal Stock Numbers (FSNs). The remaining 87,263 FSNs in the central screening files represent items not requiring reference numbers for identification purposes. Of the 83,935 valid manufacturers' codes, 22,707 have been assigned 3,565 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 23,000 Verification of Manufacturers Status (DLSC Form 540) inquiries, of which 19,439 were returned for maintenance processing. The aforementioned is a result of the third 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 118,220 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 502 summaries of numbering systems. Some of these pertain to the entire corporate complex and others pertain only to one facility. There are 2,707,049 reference numbers and 2,402,231 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.

FEDERAL ITEM IDENTIFICATION GUIDES (FIIG) IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

In the FIIG Improvement Program described in previous semiannual reports, FIIGs have been developed to cover all commodity areas. During this reporting period the participants in the program have completed the mechanization of over 1.9 million existing descriptive records. All descriptive item records in the Federal Catalog Program have now been mechanized and will be used as a primary data base for DIDS when implemented.

MECHANIZED CHARACTERISTICS SCREENING

The expansion of Mechanized Characteristic Screening, also referred to as Direct Match Screening, has been accelerated over the past 6 months to take advantage of the new mechanized characteristics data base created as a result of the Federal Item Identification Guides (FIIG) Improvement Program. The capability to mechanically screen characteristics data has now been extended to 102 FIIGs covering a wide range of item commodity groupings. Nearly 60% of all descriptive requests for new Federal Stock Number assignments are now processed in this system, improving response time in this important function and gaining consistency in the decision process.

FEDERAL SUPPLY CATALOG PUBLICATIONS

The Master Cross Reference List (RL) microfilm semiannual basic is being discontinued with the July 1973 issue.

The RL, Part One (Reference Number to FIIN) and Part Two (FSN to Reference Number) is being published on microfiche in lieu of microfilm by the Government Printing Office contractor. Magnetic tapes of the 1973 RL are also furnished to the Department of Commerce for sale to the general public (RL Part One only).

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 FSN; therefore, the Federal Catalog System provides the base which makes the system possible.

During the reporting period, releasable assets valued at $135.4 million were offered to satisfy reported requirements of materiel managers. During the same period, Defense Property Disposal Service (DPDS) received transaction reports indicating that of the materiel offered, approximately $36.8 million had been accepted for transfer and $12.9 million had been shipped.

The Cataloging file contains descriptive data keyed to the FIIN. This has been invaluable in the reporting of declared excess materiel from the Defense Property Disposal Offices (DPDOs) to DPDS. Declared excess assets with few exceptions can be reported mechanically on an Excess Advice Card by FSN to DPDS and upon receipt can be matched against the description file to provide the item description required. Through this program declared excess assets are screened by various manual methods, such as declared Excess Personal Property Listings (EPPLs), High Value Flyers, High Value Phone referrals, Front End Screening (FES) referrals, Final Asset Screeining (FAS) offers, offers of materiel to fill Want List requirements, and several other programs in use to obtain reutilization of declared excess and surplus property.

The total transfers of declared excess and surplus through these manual efforts during the reporting period was $72 million. The EPPLs, published weekly, utilize the complete FSN where available, along with descriptive data in layman's language or the manufacturers code and part number. During the reporting period, $339.5 million worth of assets were advertised via the EPPL, with $16.6 million being transferred. The Flyer goes a step further than the EPPL and provides a picture of the excess materiel along with alternate uses for the equipment where available. During the reporting period, $47.7 million worth of assets were advertised via the High Value Flyer with $10.4 million being transferred. Where there is a known user of high value declared excess assets, phone referrals are made. During the reporting period $8.0 million was offered and $9.8 million was transferred. In an effort to inform service/agency item managers of those single service/agency user and integrated managed items reported as declared excess or surplus by the Defense Property Disposal Office (DPDO), these items upon receipt at DPDS are matched against the single service/agency user and integrated manager item file. All matches are referred to the appropriate service/agency item managers. Of the declared excess and surplus assets referred, 1660 line items valued at $2,8 million were transferred to the DSA Centers and 544 line items valued at $.9 million were transferred to the services.

The "want List" is another reutilization approach to locate available excess equipment, non-reportable in some cases, and authorizing the transfer to satisfy a requirement. Requirements are made known to field activities who then contact DPDS if the required item or similar item is available. DPDS then will advise the requiring activity of the availability of materiel. During the reporting period a total of 969 items valued at $18.4 million were reutilized by this effort.

Another reutilization approach is the requirements list, a specialized want list used to locate excess Survival Life Support equipment required for the USAF Jungle and Tropic Survival Training School. Such requirements are made known to field activities who then contact the appropriate school when items become available.

As a last effort to reutilize property, selected items reported for sale are given a final pass against the requirements file. During the reporting period $3.5 million was offered and $2.2 million was transferred through the FAS program.

The DLSC Federal Catalog files provide descriptive data to all Property Disposal Officers in order that it may be used in preparation of the equipment for sales and inclusion in the Invitation for Bids (IFBs). Descriptive data is also submitted via photocopy listing to all General Services Administration Offices where it may be utilized in preparation of their excess listings in addition to identifying all excess materiel released to the GSA regions.

PROVISIONING SCREENING

During the reporting period 2,945,732 manufacturers' reference numbers were screened against the master files in support of provisioning actions; 1,050,774 or 35.7 percent were matched to existing FSNs. There were 672,018 FSNs screened for the same purpose. Additionally, there were 1,317,119 manufacturers' reference numbers screened against the master file, of which 350,062 or 26.6 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 1,659,635 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 4. 0 percent of the FSNs matched.

PARTICIPATION IN THE NATO CODIFICATION SYSTEM

During the reporting period 42, 684 numbers (reference number of FSN) were processed against the central files; 146, 119 ownership registrations were processed and the pertinent EAM file data on cards or ADP tape were furnished; and 9, 158 original item identifications were prepared under the applicable international agreements.

As of 30 June 1973 a gross total of 2, 435, 890 management registrations were recorded to 11 NATO countries, 10 other friendly foreign governments and 2 NATO agencies. The quantity of management registrations by country or agency was as follows:

NATO COUNTRIES

Belgium	280, 400	Germany	603, 382
Canada	125, 032	Italy	62, 279
Denmark	2, 335	Norway	260, 646
France	280, 789	United Kingdom	137, 205
Netherlands	721	Turkey	5, 390
Greece	5, 112		

OTHER FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS

Australia	417, 784	South Africa	59, 289
Japan	14, 875	*Iran	131
*Brazil	60	*Philippines	21
Israel	11, 593	*Spain	258
*South Korea	78	New Zealand	8, 358

*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 Foregin Military Sales Program.

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NATO AGENCIES

NATO Supply Center	54,495
Logistics Working Group	105,657

The net total of FSNs with registered foreign managers was 1,270,295. Of this total 402,324 were managed solely by foreign governments and the remainder, 867,971, were managed by one or more U.S. activities, as well as by one or more foreign government(s)

ITEM MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR DoD USED ITEMS

The following table displays the wholesale and retail management responsibilities of the 3.6 million items used by DoD. The Federal Catalog Program is the vehicle that collects, maintains and disseminates the management data elements necessary to assist in making managment assignments and to achieve the overall DoD objective of "one item, one manager" for all DoD used items.

The DoD wholesale manager can take three forms:

1. The Commodity Integrated Materiel Manager (CIMM); i.e., DSA, GSA, TACOM, etc., which is defined as an activity designated to exercise Integrated Materiel Management for a FSC Group/Class, commodity or item on a DoD or Federal Government-wide basis. The CIMM functions normally include computation of requirements, funding, budgeting, storing, issuing, cataloging, standardization, procurement and disposal.

2. The Weapons Integrated Materiel Manager (WIMM), which is the Military Service Inventory Control Point that performs the DoD or Federal Government-wide Integrated Materiel Manager functions as outlined in 1 above for assigned items.

3. The Military Inventory Manager (MIM), which is an activity assigned the prime responsibility for the inventory management of a reparable, investment or end item of supply within a particular military service/agency.

The retail manager takes two forms:

1. A Service Item Control Center (SICC) which performs the residual materiel management or retail management functions for a weapons system oriented consumable item of supply when the wholesale materiel management

functions for the item have been assumed by a Weapons Integrated Materiel Manager (WIMM), or the principal of an inter-service supply support agreement for a reparable, investment or end item where wholesale inventory management responsibility has been assumed by another service in the role of an agent.

2. The Military Retail Manager (MRM) which is an activity within a service/agency having retail responsibility for an item of supply where the wholesale materiel management functions are performed by a Commodity Integrated Materiel Manager.

The figures in columns one and two are the total number of items (3,075,200) currently under the single integrated management concept regardless of the number of activities using the items.

The quantity of items shown in column three fall into three categories: (1) Reparable items, (2) End equipments, and (3) Consumable items. The latter category is scheduled to be transferred to the wholesale manager concept. The totals shown in the vertical columns are net DoD figures for CIMM, WIMM and Total DoD Managed Items. The totals shown for MIM, SICC or Principal, and MRM are gross registrations because a single item may be in the inventory of more than one service. The total DoD Managed Item column reflects net item registrations in each case.

Activity	CIIM	WIMM	MIM	SICC or Principal	MRM	Total DoD Managed Items
Army	49,095	165,173	86,125	12,734	627,349	940,476
Navy		480,208	229,874	61,633	901,742	1,673,458
Air Force		543,442	266,355	57,501	815,926	1,683,224
Marine Corps		28,667	12,897	20,073	201,344	262,981
DSA	1,738,624					1,738,624
Other DoD			49,371	1,311	10,936	61,506
*GSA	69,991					69,991
Total	1,857,710	1,217,490	644,622	153,252	2,557,297	3,641,463

*These items are managed by GSA but used by DoD

FSC MICROFORM FILE

Beginning 1 January 1968, a film file of Federal Item Identifications was made available, organized by Federal Supply Classification (FSC) Class 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 414 in current update, covering item identifications in 76 FSC Groups and 544 Classes. Activities are supplied with cartridges of 16mm microfilm, the contents of which have been tailored to their specific requirements. A total of 148,295 cartridges (17,486 Basics and 130,809 Updates) were provided in FY 73 to the 76 subscribers for the 1971 basic issue and bi-monthly updates. Refilming the DD 146 data on a class basis on microfiche in addition to microfilm began in April 1973. During FY 73 a total of 79,551 fiche were prepared and distributed to 25 customers. The present microfilm updates will be used with the new class fiche basics until replacement of all FSCs is completed in July 1974. After July 1974, all annual basics and bi-monthly updates will be on microfiche.

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. Standardization, which tends to take a backseat to urgent requirements in a wartime economy, will become increasingly important as a means of substantial dollar savings as we move into a peacetime environment. As a means of strengthening the management of the Defense Standardization Program and to provide broad based high level executive attention to the program, the Department of Defense Directive 4120.3 has been revised. The date of the revision is 6 June 1973. Of significance is the establishment of the Materiel Specifications and Standards Board comprised of Flag Officers from both the engineering and logistics communities of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Military Departments, and the Defense Supply Agency. The chairman of the nine member Standards Board is appointed by the Assistant Secretary for Installations and Logistics with the concurrence of the Director, Defense Research and Engineering. Vice Admiral Eli T. Reich, Deputy Assistant Secretary (Production Engineering and Materiel Acquisition), is Chairman Pro Tem of the Standards Board. The Defense Standardization Program, under the aegis of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, will be managed by the Standards Board. The Standards Board will be augmented by panels of experts from the Military Departments and DoD agencies to provide expertise necessary to cope with the engineering, scientific, and industry related problems. The panels will have cognizance over the studies, plans, and implementation of efforts devoted to the areas under scope of their respective charters. The Standards Board and the panels, bringing together commodity and technical experts, will focus on the development of portions of a total program to assure that the Department of Defense exploits the industry standards for parts, materials, and engineering practices, as well as the partial resolution of the internal DoD problem of proliferation.

Completed and Active Standardization Projects

During this reporting period, 2,833 standardization projects were completed, involving 545 new military specifications, 1,508 military specifications revised or amended, 46 new federal specifications, 208 federal specifications revised or amended, 75 new military standards, 389 military standards revised or amended, 5 new military handbooks, 3 military handbooks revised and 283 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 40,883 active documents. Among these, there are 25,417 military and 4,922 federal specifications, 6,812 military and 250 federal standards, 1,776 qualified products lists, 105 military and 1 federal handbook, 655 industry and 105 international standardization documents.

Overage Documents

The review of specifications and standards which are five years old and have not been amended, revised or validated as up-to-date documents, are reviewed on a yearly basis. Of the 7,347 documents circulated for review, 306 were cancelled, 3,165 were validated as still being current, and the remainder are still to be reviewed or scheduled for revision or amendment.

Number of Separate Specifications Consolidated Into Single Specifications

Ninety (90) documents have been consolidated into 27. Since the passage of Public Law 436, 82nd Congress, 4,296 specifications have been consolidated into 1,589.

Management Control Systems and Data Requirements

One (1) document was added to the Management Control Systems List (MCSL). Five (5) documents were deleted from the MCSL. Two (2) documents in the MCSL are scheduled for conversion to military standards (bookform). Elements of management control have been segregated in one (1) document. Elements of management control are to be segregated into four (4) documents.

ILLUSTRATIVE STANDARDIZATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Lacquer, Acrylic, Low Reflectance, Olive Drab

A new specification, MIL-L-46159, Lacquer, Acrylic, Low Reflectance, Olive Drab was issued which meets an immediate need of the Army for a low reflective camouflage coating for use in military aircraft in southeast Asis. Several thousand gallons of this lacquer were shipped to southeast Asis for field application.

Paints, Sealers and Adhesives

Standardization documents have been revised or amended to effect changes required by Government Regulations such as Executive Order No. 11282

implementing the Clean Air Act and Public Law 91-695 Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act, to update test methods and materials and to update packaging requirements.

Macrograph Standard for Steel Bars

MIL-STD-1459, Macrograph Standard for Steel Bars, was prepared to allow for macrographic evaluation of steel bars used for special needs in connection with shell materials and other ordnance applications.

Finishes and Coatings

MIL-F-7179E, Finishes and Coatings, Protection of Aerospace Weapons Systems, Structures and Parts, has been revised to add additional polyuretahane finishing systems which are now the standard finish for military aircraft.

Hose and Hose Assembly, Rubber, Smooth Bore, Light-Weight

Military Specification MIL-H-20176B was prepared to provide the government with a document adequate to procure a light-weight, flexible rubber sewage and oily waste hose. The requirement for non-collapsible sewage hose was deleted. The hose covered by the subject document will be the vital link for conveying sewage waste and oily-waste from shipboard holding tanks to the shore collecting systems. The subject hose will meet the needs of the Navy in its effort to abate pollution of the rivers, ports, and navigable waterways.

Grease, Aircraft, General Purpose

A revision to specification MIL-G-81322 was improved by (a) providing information to prospective suppliers that greases meeting this specification must be compatible with greases already on QPL of this specification, (b) changing the temperatures of the low temperature torque requirements to show increased product capability, (c) adding a dirt count requirement to cut down the amount of extraneous particles, the largest of which could interfere with bearings having small clearance, (d) making the oscillation tests more specific to pinpoint applications in helicopters, and (e) adding retention of qualification information to assure that qualification information is relatively current.

Pipe, Steel

Federal Specification WW-P-406D was revised to bring the format of the document up-to-date and to cover the latest requirements for steel pipe. All technical requirements were standardized by incorporating the latest ASTM standards. The referenced documents are current, and latest packing and packaging methods were specified. Use of this document will result in reduced costs and lead to monetary savings through (a) savings resulting from latest technical modifications and provisions incorporated in the document, (b) procurement of commercial items, and (c) maximum competitive bidding because the document assures optimum sources of supply.

Cable, Cord and Wire, Electrical

Specification MIL-C-915, Revision E and associated specification sheets were published. The following changes were included: (a) Consolidated MIL-C-915, MIL-C-914, MIL-C-23206 and MIL-C-24145 into a single document, (b) The deletion of armor from 23 types of cable, (c) The use of standard conductor sizes in accordance with ASTM B286 insofar as possible, (d) Reduction in the number of sizes in the silicone-rubber-glass insulated types.

Electromagnetic Compatibility/Interference Program

Military Handbook 217, Electromagnetic Compatibility/Interference Program Requirements, has been coordinated and issued. The document provides criteria and guidance to procuring activities, contractors and testing facilities for establishing, managing and evaluating an EMCS program.

Fuzes and Primers

In support of procurement of explosive loaded items (i.e. fuzes, igniters, etc.) 11 specifications have been amended or revised to remove precautions during manufacturing, handling, and storage of these items. In place of those deleted requirements, reference is now made to DoD Manual 4145.26M, DoD Contractors' Safety Manual for Ammunition, Explosives and Related Dangerous Material. This serves to standardize safety practices at manufacturers' plants.

Screw Threads

MIL-S-8879, Screw Threads, Controlled Radius Root with Increased Minor Diameter, General Specification for, and MIL-S-7742, Screw Threads, Standard , Optimum Selection Series, General Specification for, have been

amended. The amendments were issued in order to solve or minimize the gaging problems associated with the use of the threads covered by the respective specifications. Industry has objected to the heretofore mandatory single element gaging requirement for these threads, claiming a cost of 120 million dollars would be required to buy the required gages, if the requirement were to be met. The respective amendments offer alternate methods of gaging depending on degree of assurance desired that the requirement was met.

Nondestructing Testing Methods (NDT)

A new limited coordination Military Handbook 333, Handbook for Standardization of Nondestructive Testing Methods, has been completed. The handbook provides a guide for the standardization of nondestructive testing (NDT) methods to meet Aerospace requirements and is intended to provide support data to aid government procurement inspectors and contractors to meet military standardization requirements. The high level of reliability required or aerospace structures and components necessitates their complete inspection by reliable nondestructive testing methods. All NDT methods have variables which control the level of their performance in terms of sensitivity, resolution, and reliability. Assurance of a NDT performance level requires that these method variables be selected properly. The six most commonly used NDT methods (magnetic particle, penetrant, radiography, ultrasonics, eddy current, and thermal) are addressed in the handbook as well as discussion on three types of variables affecting the quality of nondestructive tests, the effect of these variables on quality, and how these variables can be standardized, calibrated, and controlled. This handbook provides the inspector with a single source of recommended procedures and criteria to evaluate the quality and acceptability of contractor NDT methods.

Buildings, Prefabricated

A new specification, MIL-B-52755, Buildings, Prefabricated, Sectional, Metal, Two Story Variable Span and Length, covers commercially available building systems for use by the Army in the theatre of operations. The specification will simplify procurement of buildings and eliminate many of the variety of commercial structures now being procured for Army use.

Fluerics Terminology and Symbols

A revision to MIL-STD-1306, Fluerics Terminology and Symbols, which fosters inter/intra system/service standardization was issued. The revision included revised definitions and figures to bring them up to date with current flueric practices; sources of information on the International

Metric System; a table of conversion factors for Basic Quantities, and; a subsection on Symbols for Instrumentation and Other Peripheral Equipment.

Metals

In keeping with the government policy toward greater utilization of industry documents, the ASTM standards listed below were adopted and Acceptance Notices processed. Acceptance of these documents will broaden the procurement base by making available a specification which reflects the latest industry practice and state-of-the-art.

ASTM E 23-72, Notched Bar Impact Testing of Metallic Materials
ASTM E 92-72, Vickers Hardness of Metallic Materials
ASTM E 140-72, Standard Hardness Conversion Tables for Metals
ASTM A 108-69, Cold-Finished Carbon Steel Bars and Shafting
ASTM A 109-72, Steel, Carbon, Cold-Rolled Strip
ASTM A 304-66, Alloy Steel Bars to End-Quench Hardenability Requirements
ASTM A 306-64, Carbon Steel Bars Subject to Mechanical Property Requirements
ASTM A 308-69, Steel, Sheet, Cold Rolled, Long Terne Coated
ASTM A 309-54, Weight and Composition of Coating on Long Terne Sheets by the Triple Spot Test
ASTM A 322-64A, Hot Rolled Alloy Steel Bars
ASTM A 331-64A, Cold-Finished Alloy Steel Bars
ASTM A 366-72, Steel Sheets, Carbon, Cold Rolled, Commercial Quality
ASTM A 568-72, Steel, Carbon and High Strength Low Alloy, Hot-Rolled Sheet, Hot-Rolled Strip and Cold-Rolled Sheet, General Requirements
ASTM A 569-72, Steel, Carbon (0.15 Maximum, Percent), Hot-Rolled Sheet and Strip, Commercial Quality
ASTM A 570-72, Hot Rolled Carbon Steel Sheet and Strip, Structural Quality
ASTM A 581-71, Free-Machining Stainless and Heat-Resisting Steel Wire
ASTM A 582-71, Free-Machining Stainless and Heat-Resisting Steel Bars, Hot-Rolled or Cold-Finished
ASTM A 600-69, High Speed Tool Steel
ASTM A 611-72, Steel, Cold-Rolled Sheet, Carbon, Structural
ASTM A 619-68, Carbon Steel Sheet, Cold-Rolled, Drawing Quality
ASTM A 620-68, Carbon Steel Sheet, Cold-Rolled, Drawing Quality Special Killed
ASTM A 621-68, Carbon Steel Sheet and Strip, Hot-Rolled Drawing Quality

ASTM A 623-72, General Requirements for Tin Mill Products
ASTM A 624-68, Single-Reduced Electrolytic Tin Plate
ASTM A 626-68, Double-Reduced Electrolytic Tin Plate
ASTM A 630-68, Determination of Tin Coating Weights for Hot Dip and Electrolytic Tin Plate

Commercial Vehicle Standardization

The existence of a near duplicating series of military and federal specifications for commercial vehicles under 10000# weight prompted the initiation of standardization study in February 1973. The study will determine if the series of federal specifications can be modified to allow them to be used for the procurement of vehicles for DoD. If this can be accomplished, 21 different types of vehicles now procured through the media of military specifications can be procured by GSA using the same federal specification now being used for the acquisition of commercial vehicles for civil agencies of the government. This action will increase the standardization of vehicles used by all government agencies and may increase competition due to combining procurement actions.

Handtools, Kits and Sets

The General Services Administration (GSA) and the Department of Defense have formed a working group to achieve a more effective standardization program for handtools, kits and sets. The working group is co-chaired by GSA and the U. S. Army (Natick Laboratories). The group have so far standardized on Double Box End Wrench Sets, Double Open End Sets and Combination Wrench Sets. These standardization actions have produced savings of over $500,000.

Truck, Lift, Fork

Military Specification MIL-T-21863D, Truck, Lift, Fork: Diesel Engine, Pneumatic-Tire, all purpose, 6000 pound capacity at 24-inch load center, was revised. The fork lift trucks covered by this specification are of a military design and controlled by Government drawings. The updated specification, including the Government drawings, incorporated many changes which provide: (a) An improved end item; (b) An alternate engine and transmission which provide a choice of four different power train configurations; (c) A more efficient air cleaner and muffler system; and (d) A reliability factor; (e) Latest information from component vendors, and; (f) Greater competition in the procurement of fork lift trucks.

Connector Test Methods

Military Standard 1344, Connector Test Methods, was revised to improve the humidity test and to add five new test methods for ozone exposure, acceleration contact insertion and removal forces, mating and unmating forces and contact resistance. This addition creates a more complete document for uniform testing all types of connectors. Use of the document will eliminate the need for updating test methods of each individual connector specification. There are about eighty general connector specifications, each covering several connector types.

Shrimp, Frozen, Raw, Breaded

Current procurements require shrimp to have no more than 40% breading. Commercial practice is to allow 50% breading. At a meeting, 11 through 13 March 1973 at MacDill Air Force Base between representatives of industry, Natick, DPSC and the Services, the military's position of not allowing 50% breading was discussed. At a meeting held at Natick on 9-10 May 1973, it was agreed to allow 50% breading. This should make military procurement more compatible with commercial production, as 50% breading is commercial practice. Also, it will tend to increase the number of bidders because in the event of military rejection, vendors will have commercial outlets for their product. A savings of approximately 10¢ per pound should result.

Set Screws

Revisions of Military Standards MS 51965, MS 51966, MS 51973, MS 51974, MS 51021, MS 51023, MS 51029, MS 51031, MS 51038, MS 51045, MS 51047, MS 51963 and MS 51964 were prepared. Intangible savings will be realized through the inactivation of various sizes which are no longer required by the military for new design. Procurement and engineering will be facilitated through the updating of these documents to reflect current standard practices, and the addition of self-locking requirements.

Automated Engineering Documentation Preparation System (AEDPS)

The purpose of the Automated Engineering Documentation Preparation System (AEDPS) is to utilize computer techniques for the preparation of a procurement document for commonly used items. The computer memory will permit inquiry by item characteristic to determine if the item has been previously used. By this technique, duplication of parts can be minimized and an inexpensive means for preparing the documents will be provided.

The pilot program developed the computer technique for 12 generic names which were documented in MIL-STD-35. The Army Missile Command has incorporated the requirements for using MIL-STD-35 in its contracts and documents are being prepared by the system.

DEFENSE ITEM ENTRY CONTROL PROGRAM

Management attention focused on controlling the proliferation of unnecessary items into the DoD Logistics System has been increased. A DoD Parts Control System has been initiated to optimize the use of standard items during the design stage of weapons system acquisition. This effort is aimed at controlling item proliferation upstream prior to production. Downstream following production, prior to assignment of a federal stock number, Defense Technical Review Activities technical review all propsed new items in high growth classes responsible for approximately 75% of new item entry into the logistic system. The following summarizes the current status of the program in these two areas.

Parts Control System

A pilot program has been established in the electronic material area to test the concept of a DoD Parts Control System. The Defense Electronics Supply Center's Engineering Directorate was established as the Military Parts Control Advisory Group (MPCAG) to provide engineering advice and assistance on electronic parts to designers of electronic equipment. That part of the pilot program which tested the concept of central collection of nonstandard electronic parts data for the purpose of updating military specifications, on an accelerated basis, has been successfully completed. DoD has instructed the military services to make the forwarding of this data to the MPCAG a permanent operation for all 22 classes of FSC Group 59. This action will assist in maintaining military specifications current with technology advances reflected in new weapons systems developments.

That part of the pilot program which was to test the concept of providing advice to designers during the design phase of new equipments is being superseded through action by the military services which accepts the concept as beneficial and formalizes assistance to designers through advisory support agreements with the MPCAG. These agreements provide for contractually invoked conditions requiring contractors to seek assistance on electronic parts. Support agreements had been completed with the Air Force for

major weapons systems and for developments involving smaller systems and equipments classified as "less than major systems." In addition, an agreement has been established with the Navy Training Equipment Center. Data developed from these assistance efforts indicates cost benefits ratio of in excess of 20 to 1 over investment costs. More recently, 2 May 1973, an agreement has been completed with the Electronics Command of the Navy. These agreements require the MPCAG to work with design contractors recommending electronic parts to achieve the required performance, reviewing nonstandard parts proposed by contractors, and developing military specifications where required. It is expected that through the MPCAG designers will be guided into the maximum use of standard parts while the equipment is being built; therefore, preventing varieties of nonstandard parts from entering the supply system.

Efforts are now underway to establish a MPCAG in the general hardware area. OSD has requested the Defense Supply Agency (DSA) to submit a plan for the fastener classes of Group 53. This plan will be considered by the DoD Parts Control System Task Group. It is to be noted that successful MPCAGs for electronic and hardware parts would apply an effective control in material areas which account for approximately 50% of new items entering the DoD supply system.

Defense Technical Review Activities

During the past six months, 93,400 requests for new stock numbers were subjected to a technical review to avoid unnecessary proliferation in the assignment of new stock numbers. As a result of this review, 18,500 (19.8%) of these requests were identified to an existing stock number or a potential replacement item. In addition, 16,400 (17.5%) requests were found to contain errors. The Defense Technical Review Activities corrected 4,400 and returned the remaining 12,000 to the submitting activities. This program continues to be a vital tool in the control of proliferation of items and the upgrading of the technical accuracy of catalog data files.

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 25,936 items from the DoD supply system. The central catalog data file

currently records 75,316 items in this status awaiting removal from the system as stocks are attrited or the items become eligible for deletion through inactivity. Illustrative item reduction accomplishments follow.

Starter Ropes

Of the 76 items reviewed, 20 had insufficient technical data to make a characteristic comparison with other items. Of the remaining 76 items, 43 items, or 78%, were designated as not authorized for procurement and were earmarked for deletion from the supply system.

Rivet, Solid Universal Head

Of the 228 items reviewed, 132 items, or 58%, were designated as not authorized for procurement and were earmarked for deletion from the supply system.

Electric Lamps

Of the 3,038 items reviewed, 170 had insufficient technical data to make a characteristic comparison with other items. Of the remaining 2,868 items, 477 items, or 17%, were designated as not authorized for procurement and were earmarked for deletion from the supply system. In addition, 145 items were transferred to other FSCs, 118 FSNs were cancelled as duplicates, and 75 items were cancelled as invalid.

Various Woodworking Machines (Saws, Sanders, Lathes, Boring Machines)

Of the 440 items reviewed, 23 had insufficient technical data to make a characteristic comparison with other items. Of the remaining 417 items, 269 items, or 65%, were designated as not authorized for procurement and were earmarked for deletion from the supply system.

Semiconductors

Of the 15,689 items reviewed, 1,442 had insufficient technical data to make a characteristic comparison with other items. Of the remaining 14,247 items, 2,076 items, or 15%, were designated as not authorized for procurement and were earmarked for deletion from the supply system.

Electron Tubes

Of the 1,259 items reviewed, 221 items, or 18%, were designated as not authorized for procurement and were earmarked for deletion from the supply system. For required tube types which are no

longer procurable, Defense Electronics Supply Center has been locating substitutes which can be used with minor circuit changes or socket reconnections. In this way, procurable tubes and tubes in long supply are finding additional applications.

Ball Bearings, Miniature and Instrument

Of the 3,932 items reviewed, 621 items, or 16%, were designated as not authorized for procurement and were earmarked for deletion from the supply system.

Bearing, Roller, Tapered, Assemblies and Components

Of the 3,602 items reviewed, 956 items, or 27%, were designated as not authorized for procurement and were earmarked for deletion from the supply system.

Air Force Interchangeability and Substitution (I&S) Program

The Air Force Interchangeability and Substitution (I&S) Program has deleted 6,327 items from the supply system. I&S review is the practice of applying standardization principles to items not included in active numbered standardization projects.

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