

[INCH-POUND]
 A-A-2523B
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 (SUPERSEDING)
 A-A-2523A
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COMMERCIAL ITEM DESCRIPTION

CASE, DISPATCH, MOLDED PLASTIC

The General Services Administration has authorized the use of this commercial item description as a replacement for Federal Specification KK-C-1535 which has been canceled.

1. SCOPE AND CLASSIFICATION

1.1 Scope. This commercial item description covers molded plastic attache style dispatch cases in two sizes.

1.2 Classification. The dispatch cases shall be of the following sizes.

	Length	Height	Depth
Size 1	- 18 1/4 inches	X 12 1/4 inches	X 5 1/4 inches
Size 2	- 18 1/4 inches	X 12 1/4 inches	X 3 3/4 inches

2. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

2.1 The documents referenced in this commercial item description shall be the issues in effect on the date of issuance of the invitation for bids or request for proposal unless otherwise specified. These documents form a part of this commercial item description to the extent specified. In the event of a conflict between this commercial item description and a document referenced herein, this commercial item description shall take precedence.

Federal Standard:

FED-STD-376 - Preferred Metric Units For General Use By The Federal Government.

Beneficial comments, recommendations, additions, deletions, clarifications, etc. and any data which may improve this document should be sent to: General Services Administration, Engineering Group (7FXEE), 819 Taylor St., Fort Worth, TX 76102

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A: Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

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Copies of Federal standards are available from the General Services Administration Business Service Centers in Boston, MA; New York, NY; Philadelphia, PA; Washington, DC; Atlanta, GA; Chicago, IL; Kansas City, MO; Fort Worth, TX; Denver, CO; San Francisco, CA; Los Angeles, CA; and Seattle, WA, and the GSA Specifications Unit (3FBP-W), 7th and D Streets S.W., Washington, DC 20407.

Military Standard:

MIL-STD-105 - Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes.

Copies of military standards may be obtained from Standardization Documents Order Desk, Bldg. 4D, 700 Robbins Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094.

ASTM Standards:

- D 782 - Standard Method of Testing Shipping Containers in Revolving Hexagonal Drum
 E 29 - Standard Practice For Using Significant Digits In Test Data To Determine Conformance With Specifications.

Application for copies of ASTM standards should be addressed to ASTM, 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

3. SALIENT CHARACTERISTICS

3.1 First article. When specified (see 6.1), a sample shall be subjected to first article inspection (see 6.2), in accordance with 4.3.

3.2 Case design. The finished briefcase shall be hard molded, box type, with a partial or full tongue and groove or overlapping valence (frame or console). There shall be two or more expanding pockets on the interior attached to the upper shell half. The case shall be equipped with a handle and shall be lockable. The two shell halves shall be held secure in the open position by two locking interior hinges or stays.

3.3 Sizes. The finished outside dimensions of the cases shall be as follows (all dimensions are in inches):

Dimension	Size 1	Size 2
Length	18 1/4 +/- 1	18 1/4 +/- 1
Height	12 1/4 minimum	12 1/4 minimum
Depth	5 1/4 +/- 1/2	3 3/4 +/- 3/8

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The length and height dimensions shall include the frame but no other components. The thickness dimension shall be an exterior measurement measured at a point 1 1/2 inches (+/- 1/8 inch) in from the top corner on a diagonal line connecting either top corner with the opposite bottom corner of the case.

3.4 Material.

3.4.1 Frame (valence). The lid and bottom sections forming the case frame shall be magnesium alloy, corrosion resistant steel, aluminum alloy or glass reinforced nylon 6 injection molded (40% glass fiber reinforced) at the contractor's option. For double wall blow molded cases, the valence shall be formed as a unitary part of the molded shell interior and exterior (and of the same material) with sufficient strength to withstand deflection when drop tested and not delaminate, permanently deform, crack, or fracture.

The unitary design valence (blow molded cases) shall include a separate piece with integral latches and handle mounting mechanism, commonly referred to as a latch and handle console. The console of blow molded cases shall be manufactured from metal with a minimum thickness of 0.027 inch. The metal shall be treated for corrosion resistance as part of the finishing process. The color of the console of blow molded cases shall match the basic color of the case, black.

Corners of metal frames shall have a 90 degree bend with a radius. Mitered corners shall not be acceptable. The top and bottom section of the frame shall be of sufficient width to accommodate through-the-frame mounting of the interior and exterior hinges, and handle hardware. The perimeter of the top and bottom sections of the frame shall be of a full or partial tongue and groove, or overlapping construction. When drop tested the frame shall not be deformed, abraded, or gouged to the extent that any operation of the briefcase is hindered. The frame shall not crack, puncture or fracture when drop tested.

3.4.1.1 Corrosion resistant steel. When constructed of corrosion resistant steel the frame shall have a general purpose polished natural or black finish.

3.4.1.2 Magnesium alloy. If the frame is constructed of magnesium, it shall be chemically treated for corrosion resistance and to secure adequate paint adherence, and then coated with a baked enamel having a natural or black metallic appearance.

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3.4.1.3 Aluminum alloy. If the frame is constructed of extruded aluminum, it shall be finished with either a chemical satin or caustic etch with a clear or black anodized finish, or chemically bright dipped and coated with polyvinyl acetate resin or epoxy powder for corrosion resistance.

3.4.1.4 Glass reinforced nylon. If the frame is constructed of glass fiber reinforced nylon 6, it shall be either silver or black in color.

3.5 Lid and bottom plastic shells. Both the lid and bottom shells of the case shall be molded of the same material. The material shall be high impact strength plastic, either acrylonitrile butadiene styrene (ABS), polypropylene, or high density polyethylene. If separate frame is used, the shells shall be attached to the frame by crimping, or crimping and riveting (including stapling). The method of attachment to the frame shall result in complete adherence of the shells to the frame. The shell shall show no evidence of cracking or crazing. When drop tested the shells shall show no cracking, corner dimpling, fractures, or punctures, and the shells shall not separate from the frame in any way.

3.6 Exterior shell finish. The exterior finish of the plastic shells shall be uniformly coarse-grained and the exterior color of the case shall be black.

3.7 Handle. The case shall have a handle designed and constructed of material suitable for carrying the case. The handle shall be either plastic, metal or a combination of both and the same color as the case shell. The handle shall be securely fastened to the frame. The method of attaching the handle to the frame shall present a neat and finished appearance and shall not pose any possible user hazards such as sharp edges or protrusions. When the handle is tested as specified, it shall not be permanently deformed, or become loosened or detached.

3.8 Hardware. The hardware finish shall match the finish of the frame and may be either painted, chrome or copper/nickel plated. The hinges may be coated with a baked enamel having a natural metallic appearance or with a clear lacquer in order to match the frame finish. When the briefcase is drop tested the hardware shall not crack, fracture, or become loose or detached from the assembly. When drop tested the latches shall remain closed and shall operate as designed.

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Hardware shall consist of a minimum of the following:

- Exterior hinges as described
- 2 Interior hinges or stays
- 4 Feet or bumpers, plastic
- 2 Latches, recess mounted
- 1 Central lock or 2 locks integral with latches
- 2 Keys (if locks are key operated)

3.8.1 Hinges. There shall be one continuous exterior hinge extending at least 75% of the width of the case. There shall be two interior hinges or stays. The interior hinges shall be ball or positive stop-type to hold the lid in the open position. All hinges shall be securely fastened to the case and either partially or completely mounted through the frame. When double-wall blow molded shells are used, hinges may be molded as an integral part of the lid and base shells.

3.8.2 Latches and locks. There shall be two latches which shall be integral within the frame and recess mounted on the exterior. Pushbutton and slide latches shall fit flush with the frame (exterior). The hook mechanism of the latch, located on the upper shell, shall be made from a suitable metal. There shall be either 1 centrally mounted lock, or two locks integral with the latches. The lock(s) may be either key or combination type. If combination type, the combination shall be changeable. If key type the case shall be provided with two keys, each shall open all the locks on the case. There shall be some indication, clearly marked, located on either the latch, frame, or case shell that notes the proper opening direction of the case.

3.8.3 Feet. The case shall have four feet on the hinge face on which it will stand upright and be stable with the case closed and loaded in accordance with paragraph 4.6.2. The feet may be molded as part of the case, formed as part of the hinges, or be separate metal or plastic attachments. Plastic material shall match the exterior color of the case or exterior hardware. The feet shall be placed such that the contact with the surface on which the case is standing shall be no more than 3/4 inch from the top and bottom faces and no more than 2 inches from each side, all measurements taken from the plastic shells.

3.9 Interior finish. The interior of the case shall be lined with a fabric of either nylon, polyester, polyester/rayon, or artificial leather of a color harmonious with the case shells and shall include an apron which covers the entire hinged area of the interior. All raw perimeters of the lining and apron shall be either bound with material and lock stitched or concealed within the frame. The attachment of the lining to the shells shall be by direct thermobonding, or by adhesive. The lining shall be securely bonded, lie smoothly in the case, and be free of wrinkles and bubbles.

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3.9.1 Pockets. The interior of the lid shall have a file pocket with a minimum of two tiered full-size compartments, two exterior compartments and two adjustable retaining straps. The file pocket shall be chipboard covered with either fabric, leather or expanded vinyl. Each full-size compartment shall open to a minimum of 14 1/2 inches by 9 inches with the retaining straps attached. Nylon binding shall be placed around the outermost folio pocket edge. The method of attachment to the lid shall be the manufacturer's standard commercial practice and shall withstand the file pocket test without loosening from the lid (see 4.6.4).

The pockets shall be completely enclosed on the front, bottom, and sides except that a space on the sides at the bottom, not to exceed 2 inches, may be open. The pockets shall be held closed by 2 retaining straps, one on each side near the top. The file pocket shall have a minimum of two small accessory pockets and two pen loops on the outer surface. An additional small accessory pocket may be substituted for the pen loops. The accessory pockets and pen loops shall be made from leather or artificial leather and sewn to the file folder section.

3.10 Marking. The cases shall be marked with the manufacturer's name, trade name, or trademark of such known character that the source may be readily determined.

3.11 Workmanship. The completed case shall present a neat, finished appearance both inside and outside, and shall exhibit no evidence of sharp, jagged, or rough frame crimping or other unfinished components. There shall be no sharp edges or points on the exterior or interior. The case shall be free from defects which may affect durability, serviceability, or appearance.

3.12 Regulatory requirements. The offeror/contractor is encouraged to use recovered materials in accordance with Public Law 94-580 to the maximum extent practicable.

3.13 Metric products. Products manufactured to metric dimensions will be considered on an equal basis with those manufactured using inch/pound units, provided they fall within the tolerances specified using conversion tables contained in the latest revision of FED-STD-376, and all other requirements of this commercial item description are met.

3.14 Commercial item. The use of the term "commercial item description" in this document does not imply that any item or items offered are not required to conform with all requirements specified herein.

4. QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS

4.1 Responsibility for inspection. Unless otherwise specified in the contract or purchase order, the contractor is responsible for the performance of all inspection requirements as specified in this CID. Except as otherwise specified, the contractor may utilize his own facilities or any commercial laboratory acceptable to the Government. The Government reserves the right to perform any of the inspections or tests set forth in the specifications where such action is deemed necessary to assure that supplies and services conform to prescribed requirements. The contractor is responsible for insuring that components and materials used were manufactured, examined, and tested in accordance with referenced specifications and standards.

4.2 Classification of inspections. The inspection requirements specified herein are classified as follows:

- a. First article inspection (see 4.3)
- b. Quality conformance inspection (see 4.4)

4.3 First article inspection. When a first article is required (see 3.1 and 6.2), it shall be examined for the defects specified in 4.4.3 and tested for the characteristics specified in 4.6.

4.4 Quality conformance inspection.

4.4.1 Sampling. The levels of inspection and acceptable quality levels (AQL's) shall be in accordance with MIL-STD-105.

4.4.2 Lot formation. All cases from the same manufacturer of the same size offered for delivery at one time shall be considered a lot for purposes of inspection and testing.

4.4.3 Sampling for visual and dimensional examination. A random sample of cases shall be selected from each lot in accordance with inspection level I, AQL 4.0 expressed in terms of defects per hundred units. The sample unit shall be one case. The sample cases shall be visually and dimensionally examined to verify compliance with table I and this commercial item description. All dimensions are absolute as defined in ASTM E 29.

4.5 Sampling for tests. A random sample of dispatch cases shall be selected from each lot in accordance with inspection level S-2, AQL 6.5 expressed in percent defective.

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Table I - Visual Examination

<u>Examine</u>	<u>Defect</u>
Color	Not black, not uniform.
Shells	Not acrylonitrile butadiene styrene, polypropylene, or high density polyethylene. Not uniformly embossed. Cracked, crazing, bubbles, or wrinkles.
Interior	Not lined. Sharp, jagged, rough or unfinished components. Liner bubbled or wrinkled. Liner showing raw or unfinished edges. Liner color not harmonious with shells.
Hardware	Misaligned, rough, unfinished, not plated when required, plating not uniform. Material not as specified.
Frame	Not material specified. Corners not radiused. Does not mate when case closed.
Rivets	Not securely clinched. Raw or sharp edges or points.
Lock(s)	Does not latch. None or not enough keys provided. Does not lock and unlock as required. Combination not changeable.
Latches	Do not mate at closing. Do not secure the case closed.
Marking	Missing or illegible
Workmanship	Glue or dirt on case Any part fractured, ripped, torn, punctured, malformed, or otherwise damaged.

4.6 Tests.

4.6.1 Test conditions. Unless otherwise specified the test apparatus may be of any design suitable for performance of the test. All tests shall be conducted at 68 to 75 degrees Fahrenheit.

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4.6.2 Drop test. An assembled case shall be filled with pillows or bags, loaded with sand or vermiculite or some similar substances, to attain the test loads and at the same time fill from 50 to 75 percent of the interior to allow for load shifting. For both cases the net load shall be 25.0 pounds (plus or minus 0.5 pounds). The case shall be closed and remain unlocked during the test. The weighted case shall then be dropped 15 times to a concrete floor or steel plate from a height of 36 inches (plus or minus 1 inch, measured from the lowest point of the case): 5 times so that it lands on its feet or bottom bumpers, 5 times so that it lands on one side end and 5 times so that it lands on the opposing side end. Upon completion of the test, the case shall be examined to insure that none of the components are cracked, fractured, perforated, loosened or deformed to the extent that the case is inoperable. After performance of the test, the case shall be fully functional. Cosmetic imperfections resulting from the drops, that do not effect the function of the case shall not be considered defects. The failure of any sample to pass this test shall constitute failure of the lot.

4.6.3 Handle test. Support the case in an upside down position so that the handle will face the floor and swing freely. Attach directly to the handle a 150 pound (plus or minus 5 pounds) weight, evenly distributed over the length of the handle and leave suspended for 30 minutes. Remove the weight and check attachment of handle to the case for loosening and/or pull-through of rivets or other attaching hardware. At completion the handle shall remain securely fastened to the case and shall not be deformed and shall show the same freedom of movement as before the test. The failure of any sample to pass this test shall constitute failure of the lot.

4.6.4 File pocket test. The case shall be open and empty. The file pocket retaining straps shall be unfastened from the file pocket. A test load of 10 pounds, pulling out on the pocket, shall be exerted on the upper right corner of the outermost file pocket and held for a duration of 15 minutes. Afterwards, the same test load shall then be applied to the upper left, lower right, and lower left corners of the pocket each for a duration of 15 minutes. At the completion of the test, the file pocket shall show no signs of deformation or loosening from the case shell.

4.6.5 Tumble test. The tumble test shall be performed on first article inspections only. Load and close an assembled case as specified in the drop test and place it in a hexagonal drum 7 feet in diameter across the corners, containing baffles arranged on the inner periphery of the drum. The drum shall revolve at a speed of 2 RPM (plus or minus 1/16 RPM). The drum shall be in accordance with ASTM Standard D 782.

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The drum shall be equipped with the conical projection hazard positioned in face No. 4 in accordance with ASTM D 782. The case shall be placed in the drum and tumbled for 120 falls (the counter for the drum shall be set to record six falls per revolution). The case shall remain closed during the test. After testing, the case shall be examined for cracking or fracturing of the frame. Deformation, abrasion or gouging of the frame is permitted only to the extent that it does not, at the same time, deform the shell and/or result in more than slight binding of the mating frame sections. The shell shall be examined for cracking, fracturing, punctures or separation from the frame. The feet or bumpers shall not become detached, cracked or deformed upon completion of the test, slight loosening of the feet is permitted if their function is not impaired.

4.6.6 Lock, latch and hinge test. The lock, latch, and hinge test shall be performed on first article inspections only. An assembled case shall be unlatched, opened to completely engage the stay, closed, and latched for 10,000 cycles. The above procedure shall be considered one cycle when tested in the sequence cited. Upon completion of the test, the case shall be examined to insure that none of the components are cracked, fractured, loosened or deformed to the extent that the case is inoperable. Deformation, abrasion, or gouging of the frame is permitted only to the extent that it does not, at the same time, deform the shell and/or result in binding of the mating frame sections.

4.7 Examination for preparation for delivery. A random sample of shipping containers shall be selected from each lot for examination of the unit, intermediate and shipping containers (as applicable) for conformance with the packaging, packing, and marking required in the contract or order. Samples shall be selected in accordance with inspection level S-2, AQL 6.5, expressed in terms of defects per hundred units. The sample unit shall be one shipping container.

5. PREPARATION FOR DELIVERY

5.1 Packaging, packing, and marking. The packaging, packing, and marking shall be as specified in the contract or order.

6. NOTES

6.1 Ordering data. The purchasers should select the preferred options permitted herein and include the following in procurement documents.

- (a) Title, number, and date of this commercial item description.
- (b) Size required.
- (c) When a first article is required (see 3.1, 4.3, and 6.2).
- (d) The packaging, packing, and marking required.

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6.2 First article. When a first article is required, it shall be inspected and approved under the appropriate provisions of FAR 52.209. The first article should be a preproduction sample. Four samples shall be provided for inspection and testing. A separate sample should be used for each test except for the handle test and file pocket test, which can be performed on the same case.

6.3 National Stock Numbers (NSNs). The following NSNs have been assigned with this CID. The list may not be indicative of all possible NSNs associated with the CID.

Size 1 - 8460-00-782-6726
Size 2 - 8460-00-782-6729

6.4. Clarification of symbols. In all cases where "+/-" is used, it is to be interpreted as "plus or minus".

MILITARY INTERESTS:

NONE: DoD has determined that no military activity has an official interest in this commercial item description.

Preparing Activity:

GSA - FSS