[INCH-POUND]
A -A - 3116
December 31, 1997

COMMERCIAL ITEM DESCRIPTION

STOOL, STEP, CASTER MOUNTED, SAFETY

The General Services Administration has authorized the use of this commercial item description as a replacement for AA-S-704 for all federal agencies.

1. SCOPE. These characteristics concisely describe the essential physical and functional/ performance features of the commercially available caster mounted, safety step stool used to provide safe access to areas not within normal arm's reach. It can also be used to provide seating when work is being performed in lower drawers or shelves.

2. SALIENT CHARACTERISTICS.

2.1 Design. The step stool shall have a caster mounted body or frame with two step levels arranged one above the other with the upper level of smaller area than the total step area on the lower level. The steps shall be easily accessible for foot placement. The stool shall have an automatic safety feature actuated by a relatively light weight applied to the surface of the steps. It shall roll freely on casters when unweighted and shall become stationary as soon as a weight of not more than 40 pounds is placed on either step. It shall be designed and constructed to withstand active daily abuse.

2.2 Construction. The body of the stool shall be constructed of cold-rolled steel or molded high impact polystyrene. It shall be mounted on three spring mounted casters securely attached to the perimeter of the lower base. The lower perimeter shall be 15 to 16 inches in diameter and the top diameter shall be 11 1/2 to 14 1/2 inches and it shall be 13 1/2 to 14 1/2 inches high

2.3 Steps. The tread facing on the steps shall be black, corrugated or ribbed, skid resistant, securely adhered or integral and at least 7/64 inch thick. The step areas shall be easily accessible for foot placement. The lower step shall 6 to 6 1/2 inches high and the upper step shall 13 1/2 to 14 1/2 inches high.

2.4 Workmanship. The finished stool shall be of a quality to provide a finished item acceptable in appearance, function, and serviceability. It shall be a substantial and easy operating item, without features or surfaces which are potentially hazardous to personnel or their clothing and without components that will work loose during use.

3. REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS. The offeror/contractor is encouraged to use recovered materials in accordance with Public Law 94-580 to the maximum extent possible.

Beneficial comments, recommendations, additions, deletions, clarifications, etc. and any data which may improve this document should be sent to: General Services Administration, National Furniture Center, Washington, DC 20406.

4. QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS.

4.1 Performance. Each stool shall be tested for stability, immobility, freedom from wobble, balance, service, and static load.

4.1.1 Stability. Place stool on flat, level surface with the casters in rolling position. Apply a weight of 40 pounds in the central area of the top step. Stool must become immobile. Leaving the weight in place, apply vertical pressure to the top step of the stool at several points near the perimeter. Any wobble will constitute non-compliance. Remove the weight from the top step and apply it gradually to the lower step at each accessible position, within 2 inches of the perimeter. The stool shall neither roll nor fail to contact the floor at least in part.

4.1.2 Balance. Apply a 150 pound weight to (1) the top step of the stool within 2 inches of its perimeter, (2) opposite the first location, within 2 inches of the perimeter of the top step, and (3) to the lower step at each of its accessible directions within 2 inches of the step's perimeter. Only one 150 pound weight shall be on the stool at any time. Overturning of the stool will constitute failure.

4.1.3 Service. A 3-1/2 inch wide by 12-long by 1 inch wood or plywood strip shall be placed across the central area of the top step. An equally distributed load of 350 pounds shall be positioned on the strip and cycled 500 times at the rate of 10 to 15 strokes per minute. One cycle shall consist of lifting the weight so that the stool is elevated full height and returning the weight to full load. After 500 cycles the weight shall be reduced to 250 pounds and an additional 1500 cycles completed. At the completion of the 2000 cycles there shall be no fractures, permanent deformation or other structural failure.

4.1.4. Static load test. A 3 1/2 inch wide by 12 inch long by 1 inch wood or plywood strip shall be placed across the top of the stool. An equally distributed load of 500 pounds shall be positioned on the strip and allowed to remain for 30 minutes. After removal of the load there shall be no fractures, permanent deformation or other structural failure.

5. PACKAGING. Packaging, packing and marking shall be as specified in the contract or order.

MILITARY INTERESTS:

NONE: DoD has no registered interest in revisions and amendments to this Commercial Item Description until further notice.

Preparing Activity:

GSA-FSS