

NOT MEASUREMENT  
SENSITIVE

A-A-3129A  
March 28, 2003  
SUPERSEDING  
A-A-3129  
October 6, 1997

### COMMERCIAL ITEM DESCRIPTION

#### CUSHIONING MATERIAL, FLEXIBLE OPEN CELL PLASTIC FILM (FOR PACKAGING APPLICATIONS)

The General Services Administration has authorized the use of this commercial item description, for all federal agencies.

1. SCOPE. This commercial item description covers flexible, open cell, heat sealable, noncorrosive, plastic film for use in cushioning and wrapping applications.
2. CLASSIFICATION. The material covered by this commercial item description shall be of the following types, classes, styles and grades, as specified below and in 7.4.

Type I - Cushioning applications, nominal thickness not less than 6.4 mm (1/4 inch)

Type II - Wrapping applications, nominal thickness less than 6.4 mm (1/4 inch)

Style A - Perforated

Style B - Nonperforated

Class 1 - Without reinforcing top film

Class 2 - With reinforcing top film

Grade A - Regular

Grade B - Static dissipative

Beneficial comments, recommendations, additions, deletions, clarifications, etc. and any other data that may improve this document should be sent to: LOGSA Packaging, Storage, and Containerization Center, ATTN: AMXLS-AT, 11 Hap Arnold Boulevard, Tobyhanna, PA 18466-5097.

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### 3. SALIENT CHARACTERISTICS

3.1 Construction. The material shall be constructed of a flexible polyethylene or similar plastic film with uniformly distributed open cells structured to provide cushioning without relying on encapsulated air. The Class 2 material shall have an additional attached top film that allows impacts to be spread over a number of cells. The film shall be attached in the way that allows for cell-to-cell transfer of any air not escaping through openings on the cell side of the material, thus allowing for a dampening effect. The material shall be sufficiently transparent to permit reading of 10- point type through a single layer of material when held directly behind and touching the material. The material shall be heat sealable, corrosion resistant and flexible at low temperatures in accordance with normal commercial practice.

3.1.1 Chlorofluorocarbon and Halon Free. The manufacturing processes for the material shall be chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) and halon free. Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) indicating conformance shall be provided. (See 4.1).

3.1.2 Use of Carcinogenic Agents. The use of carcinogenic agents in the manufacture/fabrication of packaging materials in a concentration of greater than 0.1% is prohibited (see 7.3). MSDS indicating conformance shall be provided. (See 4.1).

3.2 Form. The material shall be furnished in continuous length rolls or sheets, in nominal thickness, as specified. When Style A is specified, the rolls or sheets shall be perforated at specified distances.

3.3 Dimensions. Rolls and perforated rolls shall be not less than the specified length. The width shall be as specified, with a tolerance of 6.4 mm (plus or minus 1/4 inch). When Style A is specified, the perforations shall be not more than 6.4 mm (1/4 inch) apart and of a size such that the material can be easily separated at the perforations. The tolerance for the distance between the rows of perforations in Style A material shall be 6.4 mm (plus or minus 1/4 inch).

3.3.1 Thickness. The thickness of the material shall be as specified, with the tolerance of 1.3 mm (plus or minus 0.05 inch), when tested in accordance with ASTM D 2221. The material used for cushioning applications, Type I, shall have a nominal thickness of not less than 6.4 mm (1/4 inch) thick. The material used for wrapping applications, Type II, shall have a nominal thickness less than 6.4 mm (1/4 inch).

3.4 Workmanship. The material shall be free from cracks, cuts, holes, chafed spots, or other imperfections that may impair its appearance and serviceability. It shall be free from dirt, mold release compounds, contamination, or other foreign matter.

3.5 Shelf Life. The manufacturer is required to provide test data and to certify that after 36 months of storage under normal warehouse conditions (temperature 45 degrees Fahrenheit to 120 degrees Fahrenheit and 20% to 90% RH), the Grade B material having the same nomenclature and manufactured under comparable conditions will be able to pass the electrostatic decay time and the surface resistivity tests of paragraphs 3.6.2 and 3.6.3 respectively.

3.6 Physical Properties. The material shall pass the applicable requirements specified below.

3.6.1 Creep (Type I). The creep shall be not more than 10% when tested after 7 days, in accordance with ASTM D 2221, using a load of 0.25 + or – 0.005psi.

3.6.2 Electrostatic Decay Time (Grade B). The electrostatic decay time shall be not more than 2.0 seconds when tested in accordance with MIL-STD-3010, method 4046 (12 days oven and 24 hours water shower test not required).

3.6.3 Surface Resistivity (Grade B). The surface resistivity, expressed to 3 significant figures, shall be greater than or equal to  $1.00 \times 10^5$  and less than  $1.00 \times 10^{12}$  ohms per square when tested in accordance with ASTM D 257.

#### 4. REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS.

4.1 Material Safety Data Sheets. The contracting activity shall be provided a MSDS prior to contract award. The MSDS shall be prepared and submitted in accordance with FED-STD-313 and 29 CFR 1910.1200. In the event of a conflict, 29 CFR 1910.1200 shall take precedence. The MSDS shall be included with each shipment covered by this document. (See 7.2).

4.2 Recovered materials. The offeror/contractor is encouraged to use recovered materials to the maximum extent practicable, in accordance with paragraph 23.403 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR).

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## 5. PRODUCT CONFORMANCE

5.1 Product Conformance. The product provided shall meet the salient characteristics of this CID, conform to the producer's own drawings, specifications, standards, and quality assurance practices, and be the same product offered for sale in the commercial market. The government reserves the right to require proof of such conformance.

6. **PACKAGING**. Preservation, packing, and marking shall be as specified in the contract or order.

## 7. NOTES

7.1 Intended use. The materials described are intended for use within packages. Transparent materials are especially suitable for use in inserts within transparent bags and envelopes to permit inspection of the contents. The materials are also used as bags, wraps, dunnage, and as filler. Maximum transparency is obtained when use is limited to one thickness.

7.2 Material Safety Data Sheets. Contracting officers will identify those activities requiring copies of completed MSDS prepared in accordance with FED-STD-313 and 29 CFR 1910.1200. The pertinent Government mailing addresses for submission of data sheets are listed in FED-STD-313.

7.3 Carcinogen. A carcinogen is defined as chemical appearing on one or more of the following source documents: Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulated carcinogens list, National Toxicology Program list, International Agency for Research on Cancer lists 1, 2A or 2B.

7.3.1 Precautions in Handling. Certain individuals may experience adverse reactions of a respiratory dermatological, or other nature or be sensitive to ingredients used in the manufacture/fabrication of some fire retardant packaging materials. Problems or adverse effects resulting or suspected from handling these materials should be referred to the local Medical Department for appropriate follow-up. Safety concerns should be referred to the local Safety Office for review. Questions regarding specific packaging material may be referred to the Navy Environmental Health Center. The following precautions during handling are recommended:

7.3.1.1 Cotton gloves. Cotton gloves should be worn. Gloves should be changed at the end of the work shift and laundered before reuse, or discarded. Gloves should be changed more frequently if they fail to provide protection against skin contamination during the workday.

7.3.1.2 Ventilation. Good general ventilation should be provided to ensure that significant airborne levels of dust from fire retardant packaging materials do not accumulate in work areas. Questions should be referred to the local Industrial Hygienist for review. If dust generation is unavoidable, a National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health/Mine Safety and Health Administration approved respirator, selected based on the exposure of concern, must be provided and used. Contact the local Industrial Hygienist for specific guidance pertaining to requests for training and use of approved respirators.

7.4 Ordering data. The contract or order should specify the following:

- a. Title, number, and date of this CID.
- b. Type, style, class, grade and form required.
- c. Length and width required.
- d. For Style A, distance between rows of perforations.
- e. Packaging, packing and marking required.

7.5 Referenced Documents.

7.5.1 The Code of Federal Regulations and Federal Acquisition Regulation are available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402-0001.

7.5.2 Government documents are available from the Document Automation and Production Service, 700 Robbins Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094 or electronically through either <http://assist.daps.dla.mil> or <http://assist.daps.dla.mil/quicksearch> .

7.5.3 ASTM International standards are available from ASTM International, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959 or through <http://www.astm.org> .

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7.6 Part or Identification Number (PIN). The following PIN procedure is for government purposes and does not constitute a requirement for the contractor.

This example describes a part numbering system for CID A-A-3129.

AA3129 – I A 2 B Example of reference part number:  
AA3129 – IA2B

Type I – Cushioning applications, nominal thickness  
Not less than 6.4mm (1/4 inch)

Type II – Wrapping applications, nominal thickness  
Is less than 6.4mm (1/4 inch)

Style A – Perforated

Style B – Nonperforated

Class 1 – Without reinforcing top film

Class 2 – With reinforcing top film

Grade A – Regular

Grade B – Static dissipative

7.7 Keywords. Cushioning, open cell, plastic, polyethylene, wrapping.

MILITARY INTERESTS:

CIVIL AGENCY COORDINATING ACTIVITY:  
GSA-FSS

Custodians:

Army – SM

Navy – SA

Air Force – 11

Preparing Activity:

Army - SM

Review Activities:

Project 8135-0745

Army – AR, AV, CR4

Navy – AS

Air Force – 99