

NOT MEASUREMENT
SENSITIVE

A-A-3129B
June 17, 2009
SUPERSEDING
A-A-3129A
March 28, 2003

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 (CID) 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.

2.1 Types.

- 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)

2.2 Styles.

- Style A - Perforated
- Style B - Nonperforated

Beneficial comments, recommendations, additions, deletions, clarifications, etc. and any other data that may improve this document should be sent to: Chief, LOGSA Packaging, Storage, and Containerization Center, ATTN: AMXLS-AT-P, 11 Hap Arnold Boulevard, Tobyhanna, PA 18466-5097 or e-mailed to toby.pt@us.army.mil.

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2.3 Classes.

Class 1 - Without reinforcing top film

Class 2 - With reinforcing top film

2.4 Grades.

Grade A - Regular

Grade B - Static dissipative

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, Standard Test Method for Creep Properties of Packaging Cushioning Materials. 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. This CID covers items where the assignment of a Federal shelf life code is a consideration.

3.5.1 Specific shelf-life requirements shall be specified in the contract or purchase order, and shall include, as a minimum, shelf life code, shelf life package markings in accordance with FED-STD-313 (Material Safety Data, Transportation Data for Hazardous Materials Furnished to Government Activities), preparation of a Materiel Quality Control Storage Standard including extension criteria for Type II (extendible) shelf life items, and a minimum of 85% shelf life remaining at time of receipt by the Government. The shelf- life codes are contained in the Federal Logistics Information System total Item Record.

3.5.2 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, Test Procedures for Packaging Materials, method 4046 (12 days oven and 24 hours water shower test not required).

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3.6.3 Surface Resistivity (Grade B). The surface resistivity, expressed to 3 significant figures, shall be greater than or equal to 1.00×10^5 and less than 1.00×10^{12} ohms per square when tested in accordance with ASTM D 257, Standard Test Methods for DC Resistance or Conductance of Insulating Materials.

4. REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Material Safety Data Sheets. If applicable, 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). However, compliance with the recovered materials program does not relieve the contractor from meeting all other contractual requirements. The performance characteristics of this CID take precedence over recovered content requirements.

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.

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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 at www.acqnet.gov/far or from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402-0001.

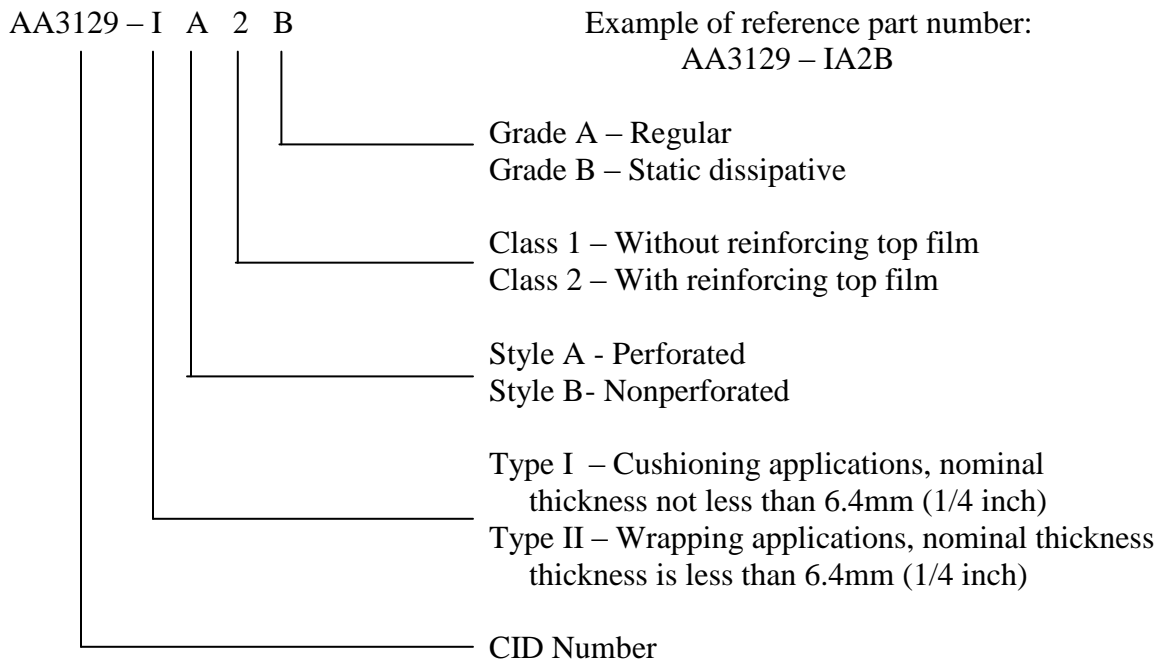
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7.5.2 Government documents are available from the Document Automation and Production Service, Building 4D, 700 Robbins Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094 or electronically through either <http://assist.daps.dla.mil> or <http://assist.daps.dla.mil/quicksearch>.

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>.

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.



7.7 Keywords. Heat sealable, nonperforated, perforated, polyethylene, wrapping.

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MILITARY INTERESTS:

Custodians:

Army – SM

Navy – SA

Air Force – 69

Review Activities:

Army – AR, AV, CR4

Navy – AS

Air Force – 11, 71, 99

CIVIL AGENCY COORDINATING ACTIVITY:

GSA-FAS

Preparing Activity:

Army - SM

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NOTE: The activities listed above were interested in this document as of the date of this document. Since organizations and responsibilities can change, you should verify the currency of the information above using the ASSIST Online database at <http://assist.daps.dla.mil>.