

[METRIC]**A-A-3196****January 17, 2006****COMMERCIAL ITEM DESCRIPTION****PEN, ROLLER-BALL/ROLLER-POINT, GEL INK & REFILLS
(RETRACTABLE/REFILLABLE/NON-REFILLABLE)**

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

1. SCOPE. This Commercial Item Description covers various types of rollerball/roller-point pens containing water-based pigmented or dye-based gel ink cartridges (sealed); with a corrosion resistant rollerball (metal or needle) and in colors as specified in the order or contract.

2. CLASSIFICATION.

Type:	I	Retractable/Refillable
	II	Retractable/Non-Refillable
	III	Non-Retractable/Refillable
	IV	Non-Retractable/Non-Refillable
Point:	1	Metal (Standard)
	2	Needle
Style:	A	Slim Body
	B	Standard Body
	C	Wide Body
Grip:	1	Rubberized/Cushioned
	2	Triangular Rubberized
	3	Ribbed Rubberized
	4	Ribbed Plastic
	5	Contoured Plastic

Beneficial comments, recommendations, additions, deletions, clarifications, etc. and any other data which may improve this document should be sent to: General Services Administration, Federal Acquisition Service, Commodity Support Branch, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, NY 10278.

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3. SALIENT CHARACTERISTICS.

TABLE I
Point Size & Write-Out Requirements

Point Size	Minimum Write-Out
A. 1.0mm	200 meters
B. 0.8mm	300 meters
C. 0.7mm	400 meters
D. 0.6mm	500 meters
E. 0.5mm	600 meters
F. 0.4mm	700 meters
G. 0.38mm	750 meters
H. 0.3mm	800 meters
I. 0.2mm	900 meters

3.1 Type I. Gel ink rollerball retractable/refillable pens shall consist of a screw-on/off type (nose, upper-lower barrel, or cap) plastic barrel (with or without visible ink supply as specified in the contract or order), an ergonomic cushioned or contoured type grip, a metal or plastic pocket clip, a sealed cylindrical cartridge with spring containing water-based pigment or dye-based gel ink, a retraction mechanism (with or without quick release pocket clip mechanism) and a metal or plastic protective nose sleeve. The specified point size and write-out distance shall be in accordance with table I and further defined in the contract or ordering document.

3.2 Type II. Gel ink rollerball retractable/non-refillable pens shall consist of a screw-on/off type (nose, upper-lower barrel, or cap) plastic barrel (with or without visible ink supply as specified in the contract or order), an ergonomic cushioned or contoured type grip, a metal or plastic pocket clip, a sealed cylindrical cartridge with spring containing water-based pigment or dye-based gel ink, a retraction mechanism (with or without quick release pocket clip mechanism) and a metal or plastic protective nose sleeve. The specified point size and write-out distance shall be in accordance with table I and further defined in the contract or ordering document.

3.3 Type III. Gel ink rollerball non-retractable/refillable pens shall consist plastic barrel (with or without visible ink supply as specified in the contract or order), an ergonomic cushioned or contoured type grip, a metal or plastic pocket clip cap, a sealed cylindrical cartridge containing water-based pigment or dye-based gel ink, and a metal or plastic protective nose sleeve. The specified point size and write-out distance shall be in accordance with table I and further defined in the contract or ordering document.

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3.4 Type IV. Gel ink rollerball non-retractable/non-refillable pens shall consist of a plastic barrel (with or without visible ink supply as specified in the contract or order), an ergonomic cushioned or contoured type grip, a metal or plastic pocket clip cap, a sealed cylindrical cartridge containing water-based pigment or dye-based gel ink, and a metal or plastic protective nose sleeve. The specified point size and write-out distance shall be in accordance with table I and further defined in the contract or ordering document.

4. REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS. The contractor is encouraged to use recovered materials to the maximum extent practicable, in accordance with paragraph 23.403 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR).

5. PRODUCT CONFORMANCE.

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

5.1.1 Workmanship. Gel rollerball pens shall be designed and assembled, sealing the reservoir (cartridges) to prevent ink leakage in either liquid or vapor form, while being otherwise free from defects and imperfections which may affect appearance and serviceability.

5.1.2 Shelf Life. Pens shall have a minimum shelf life of eighteen (18) months after manufacture and shall be capable of withstanding normal usage, handling, and storage for these type items.

5.1.3 Ink Quality & Pen Markings. The gel ink supplied (either water-based pigment or dye-based) with these type items shall be of archival quality, acid free, waterproof and shall not bleed through paper when exposed to humidity or water. Pens shall write smoothly by hand, and be reproducible by office copy machine which employ a visible light source in the reproduction process. Manufacturer's name, trademark, writing ball size, or current commercial pen marking shall be exhibited on the pen. Placement of these markings shall be at the option of the manufacturer, provided they are prominently legible.

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5.2 Examination & Testing.

5.2.1 Suppliers are encouraged to use quality control (QC) techniques that exhibit control over their processes (e.g. (Quality Management Systems) as defined in American National Standards Institute/International Standard Operations American Society for Quality Control Standard (ANSI/ISO/ASQ Q9000-2000). These techniques shall ensure quality levels equal to, or greater than, those cited in applicable technical document or, herein.

5.2.2 End item inspection/testing may be used by the offered or the Government representative, as a means to determine the effectiveness of the in process quality controls. While in process controls shall not be substituted for end item performance testing they may be used in examining visual and dimensional characteristics.

5.2.3 For those characteristics for which there are no such controls, or for end item performance test, lot by lot sampling for inspection/test shall be required. The sample unit shall be one pen. Sampling shall be in accordance with the latest version of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) / American Society for Quality Control (ANSI/ASQ Z1.4), Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes.

5.2.4 An inspection lot shall consist of all like items submitted for inspection at one time. The inspection level for end product examination (visual and dimensional) shall be S-4 with an AQL of 4.0 percent defective. The inspection level for performance testing shall be S-2 with an AQL of 4.0 percent defective. The supplier must provide objective evidence (tests and inspection records) that the presented material meets the requirements of the sampling plan as indicated above.

5.3 Performance Characteristics Tests. Testing shall be performed on components whenever practical so long as recordkeeping renders adequate traceability. Unless otherwise specified tests shall be conducted in an atmosphere of 295.15 degrees Kelvin \pm 2 degrees Kelvin temperature (22 degrees Centigrade \pm 2 degrees Centigrade) and 60% \pm 12% in relative humidity. Test paper shall be 25 percent white bond paper having a pH value, average not less than 5.0 with a basis weight of 75 grams per square meter (20 pounds, 17 x 22 - 500). A tolerance of \pm 5% is allowable. Paper for the Machine Writing Test shall have an additional requirement of 160 - 140 seconds maximum smoothness on both sides using the Sheffield method per the most current TAPPI T538 test method. Alternately, paper conforming to JCP-O-60 can be used as an alternate source.

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5.3.1 Drying Time. Place a sheet of paper on a smooth, flat surface and partially cover with a second sheet of paper. Place a 200 gram weight on top of the second sheet of paper. Write a five letter word on the exposed portion of the bottom sheet, allow drying for ten (10) seconds, and immediately drawing the top sheet and the weight across the writing at a rate of 10 cm per second. The writing shall not be smeared when tested. Examine both sheets for compliance.

5.3.2 Cap Off. With the cap removed, expose the rollerball writing instrument to the atmospheric conditions specified in the performance characteristics tests for a period of 24 hours. The write-out requirements shall meet those specified in writing characteristics.

5.3.3 Machine Writing Test. The machine tests shall be conducted on an Anja model W-10A, Hartley model W10-A, Contegma or Minitex writing test machines or equivalent capable of testing pens or refills, with the following parameters set:

Writing Load:	0.981 N (100gF) to 1.225N (125gF)
Writing Angle:	75° ± 5° (non varying)
	Or
	60° to 90° (continuously varying)
Writing Speed:	670 cm ± 10.0 cm / min. (22 ft / min.)
Writing Pattern:	Ellipse
Writing Surface:	Polished Stainless Steel

5.3.4 Write-Out Characteristics. Smooth writing shall start within the first 10 centimeters of the write-out without starvation or fluctuation of the line intensity. Visual defects include blobs, skips, dotting and density variations of line intensity. Actual length of each visual defect shall be totaled for each cartridge for the entire write-out and shall not exceed 1% of the written line.

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

7. NOTES.

7.1 Source of Documents. Issues of the following documents, in effect on the date of invitation for bids or request for proposal, form a part of this document to the extent specified herein.

7.1.2 Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

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7.1.3 ANSI / ASQC Z1.4 may be obtained from the American Society for Quality Control, PO Box 3005, 611 E. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53201-4606.

7.1.4 JCP-O-60 specifications may be obtained from Chief Paper Procurement Section, MMPP, US Government Printing Office, 732 North Capital Street NW, Washington DC 20401.

7.1.5 Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry (TAPPI). Test method T538 may be obtained from TAPPI, Technology Park/Atlanta, P.O. Box 105113, Atlanta, Georgia, 30348.

7.1.6 Federal Standards and Specifications may be obtained from the General Services Administration Specifications Section (3FP-E) in Suite 8100 at 470 L'Enfant Plaza, SW Washington DC 20407.

7.2 National Stock Number Listing (NSNs). The following is a list of NSN's assigned which correspond to this CID. The list may not be indicative of all possible NSN's associated with the CID.

7520-01-510-7491	7520-01-484-5252	7510-01-535-6356
7520-01-510-7490	7520-01-484-5250	7510-01-535-6355
7520-01-506-8515	7520-01-481-7466	7510-01-535-6354
7520-01-506-8514	7520-01-481-7462	7510-01-509-4481
7520-01-506-8502	7520-01-481-7461	7510-01-509-4480
7520-01-506-8500	7520-01-465-1454	7510-01-509-4479
7520-01-504-8936	7520-01-465-1449	7510-01-466-1325
7520-01-504-8935	7520-01-465-1448	7510-01-466-1324
7520-01-500-5216	7520-01-465-1434	7510-01-465-1446
7520-01-500-5214	7520-01-465-1432	7510-01-465-1445
7520-01-500-5213	7520-01-465-1431	7510-01-465-1444
7520-01-500-5212	7520-01-465-1430	7510-01-465-1443
7520-01-486-4675	7520-01-465-1429	7510-01-465-1442
7520-01-486-4658	7520-01-465-1427	7510-01-465-1440
7520-01-486-4646	7520-01-465-1426	
7520-01-484-5263	7520-01-465-1425	
7520-01-484-5257	7510-01-535-6356	

MILITARY INTERESTS:

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

Preparing Activity:
GSA-FSS