

**INCH-POUND**

**A-A-50111C**

**June 26, 2000**

**SUPERSEDING**

**A-A-50111B**

**February 21, 1990**

## **COMMERCIAL ITEM DESCRIPTION**

### **PITON, MOUNTAIN, FLAT**

The General Services Administration has authorized the use of this Commercial Item Description for all Federal agencies.

1. **SCOPE.** This commercial item description covers the requirements for pitons to be used to provide security for personnel or equipment in operations involving steep ascents by driving the pitons into cracks in rock. The type IV pitons can also be used to remove dirt and vegetation from cracks and to aid in removing wired stoppers from cracks with the hook cut into the piton blade.

2. **CLASSIFICATION.** The flat mountain pitons shall be of the following types:

- Type I - 3-1/4 inches
- Type II - 3-3/8 inches
- Type III - 3-1/2 inches
- Type IV - 6 inches

3. **SALIENT CHARACTERISTICS.**

3.1 **Design and construction.** The pitons shall be chromium-molybdenum alloy 4130 steel. The piton shall be capable of withstanding a force of 2000 pounds when tested as specified in paragraph 3.6. The finish shall be black oxide. The manufacturer's identification symbol shall be permanently marked on the pitons. The pitons shall be similar to figure I, which is for illustrative purposes only and is not intended to preclude procurement of pitons otherwise meeting all the requirements of this document.

**Beneficial comments, recommendations, additions, deletions, clarifications, etc. and any data which may improve this document should be sent to: Defense Personnel Support Center, Clothing and Textiles Directorate, Attn: DSCP-COET, 700 Robbins Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19111-5096.**

AMSC N/A

FSC 8465

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3.2 Type I. Type I pitons shall have a blade length as measured from the tip to the eye  $3\frac{1}{4} \pm \frac{1}{8}$  inches, a thickness of  $\frac{3}{16} \pm \frac{1}{32}$  inch at blade length midpoint, and a width of  $\frac{7}{8} \pm \frac{1}{16}$  inch at blade length midpoint. The eye hole shall be  $\frac{11}{16} \pm \frac{1}{16}$  inch in diameter. The piton shall weigh  $3 \pm \frac{1}{2}$  ounces.

3.3 Type II. Type II pitons shall have a blade length as measured from the tip to the eye  $3\frac{3}{8} \pm \frac{1}{8}$  inches, a thickness of  $\frac{1}{4} \pm \frac{1}{32}$  inch at blade length midpoint, and a width of  $\frac{13}{16} \pm \frac{1}{16}$  inch at blade length midpoint. The eye hole shall be  $\frac{11}{16} \pm \frac{1}{16}$  inch in diameter. The piton shall weigh  $3\frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2}$  ounces.

3.4 Type III. Type III pitons shall have a blade length as measured from the tip to the eye  $3\frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{1}{8}$  inches, a thickness of  $\frac{5}{16} \pm \frac{1}{32}$  inch at blade length midpoint, and a width of  $\frac{11}{16} \pm \frac{1}{16}$  inch at blade length midpoint. The eye hole shall be  $\frac{11}{16} \pm \frac{1}{16}$  inch in diameter. The piton shall weigh  $4 \pm \frac{1}{2}$  ounces.

3.5 Type IV. Type IV pitons shall have a blade length as measured from the tip to the eye  $6 \pm \frac{1}{8}$  inches, a thickness of  $\frac{5}{32} \pm \frac{1}{32}$  inch at blade length midpoint, and a width of  $\frac{11}{16} \pm \frac{1}{16}$  inch at blade length midpoint. The eye hole shall be  $\frac{11}{16} \pm \frac{1}{16}$  inch in diameter. The piton shall have a  $\frac{3}{16} \pm \frac{1}{32}$  inch radius hook cut into the side of the blade at a distance of  $\frac{3}{8} \pm \frac{1}{16}$  inch from the blade tip end of the piton. The piton shall weigh  $4\frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2}$  ounces.

3.6 Testing for pitons. All four types of flat pitons shall be pull tested in a clamping block with the top edges of the blocks having a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch radius. Eighty percent of the blade length of the piton shall be held firmly in the clamp. A 2000 pound minimum force shall be applied using a steel hook or link with a diameter of  $\frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{1}{32}$  inch at a right angle to the gripping surface of the clamp. Any piton that fails to withstand a minimum force of 2000 pounds without permanent deformation shall be classified as a defect. The lot size shall be all pitons of one type offered for delivery at one time. The test shall be performed at room temperature. Any industrial testing machine may be used to determine compliance with this requirement.

4. **REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS.** 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).

## 5. **QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS.**

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, and to be the same product offered for sale in the commercial market. The government reserves the right to require proof of such conformance.

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5.2 Visual examination. Each item shall be examined for the defects listed below.

Defects. Finish not smooth and adherent; not free of burrs, rough spots, sharp edges, slivers, flat areas or projections; any component missing or not specified type; any component fractured, split, dented, bowed, malformed, damaged or loose; markings in wrong locations, incomplete, illegible, or not as specified.

5.3 Dimensional examination. The pitons shall be examined without damaging the item. Any dimension not within the specified tolerances shall be classified as a defect. The lot size shall be expressed in units of pitons. The sample unit shall be one piton.

5.4 Acceptance criteria. Acceptance criteria shall be as specified in the contract or purchase order.

## 6. PACKAGING.

6.1 Preservation, packing, and marking. The preservation, packing, and marking shall be as specified in the contract or order.

## 7. NOTES

7.1 Source of Government documents. Copies of military and Federal documents are available from:

Standardization Documents Order Desk  
Bldg. 4D  
700 Robbins Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094

7.2 Ordering data. Acquisition documents should specify the following:

- a. Title, number, and date of this document.
- b. Type required (see paragraph 2)

7.3 Sources of products known to meet this CID. Below is only a sampling of known suppliers and not an all-inclusive list.

1. Adventure Tech, Inc  
4124 N. Burns Road  
Spokane, WA 99216

2. Climb High  
1861 Shelburne Road  
Shelburne, Vermont 05482

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MILITARY INTERESTS:

Custodians

Army – GL

Air Force – 99

Navy – NU

Review Activities

Air Force – 11.6

Navy - MC

CIVIL AGENCY COORDINATING ACTIVITY

GSA - FSS

PREPARING ACTIVITY:

DLA-CT

Project Number

8465-0300



Piton, Mountain, Flat

**Figure I**