INCH-POUND
A-A-50113B
June 26, 2000
SUPERSEDING
A-A-50113A
February 21, 1990

COMMERCIAL ITEM DESCRIPTION

PITON, MOUNTAIN, ICE

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 screwing the pitons into ice formations. This piton is also known as a Tubular Ice Screw.

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

Type I - 6-5/8 ± 3/8 inches
Type II - 8-5/8 ± 3/8 inches

3. **SALIENT CHARACTERISTICS.**

3.1 Design and construction. The pitons shall be chromium-molybdenum alloy 4130 steel. The eye shall be of sufficient size to accept a maximum 5/8 inch diameter snaplink and be permanently and firmly affixed to the top of the piton. The piton shaft shall be tubular in construction. The tip shall have milled or hand ground teeth to create sharp points so it will grab when screwing the piton into ice. The pitons shall have right hand threads in order that they will penetrate when turned clockwise into the ice, and shall be capable of withstanding a pull of 565 pounds when tested as specified in 3.4. The color shall be either natural or silver, and the manufacturer's identification symbol shall be

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**

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.

3.2 Type I. Type I pitons shall be 6-5/8 ± 3/8 inches in overall length. Maximum weight shall be 4.41 ounces.

3.3 Type II. Type II pitons shall be 8-5/8 ± 3/8 inches in overall length. Maximum weight shall be 5.12 ounces.

3.4 Testing. Both type I and II ice pitons shall be able to withstand a minimum pull of 565 pounds tangent to the major (long) axis of the ice piton. The force shall be applied at the eye while the ice screw is clamped in a cylindrical fixture with an inside diameter slightly greater then the outside diameter of the ice piton. The top inside edge of the inside diameter of the clamping fixture shall have a radius of 1/8 ± 1/64 inch. The center of the eye shall be 2 ± 1/16 inches above the top of the clamping fixture. A pull shall be applied parallel to the shackle by means of a hook or a link of 1/4 inch round steel bar, in a direction at a right angle to the tubing and shall be increased until the ice piton breaks or shows noticeable bending (permanent distortion) and recording to the rearest 5 pounds. Any piton with a final pull strength of less then 565 pounds, shall be classified as a defect. 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.

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; fillets not rounded smoothly; not free of forging lap; blade tapers not uniform; any component missing or not specified type; any component fractured, split, dented, bowed, malformed, damaged or loose; rivets loose and not properly peened; threads not uniform; markings in wrong locations, incomplete, illegible, or not as specified.

5.3 Dimensional examination. The pitons shall be examined without damaging or disassembling 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

3. REI (Recreational Equipment Incorporated)
www.rei.com
Sumner, WA 98352

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
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Piton, Mountain, Ice

Figure I