

**INCH-POUND****A-A-50114B****June 26, 2000****SUPERSEDING****A-A-50114A****February 21, 1990**

## **COMMERCIAL ITEM DESCRIPTION**

### **PITON, MOUNTAIN, KNIFEBLADE OFFSET**

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.

2. **CLASSIFICATION.** The knifeblade offset mountain pitons shall be of one type and size.

3. **SALIENT CHARACTERISTICS.**

3.1 **Design and construction.** The pitons shall be chromium-molybdenum alloy 4130 steel. The finish shall be black oxide. The maximum weight shall be 2.3 ounces. 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.

3.2 **Dimensions.** The overall length of the piton shall be  $3\text{-}3/8 \pm 1/8$  inch. The piton shall have a rounded offset 90 degrees to the blade. There shall be two carabiner holes, one on the offset and another one adjacent to the offset on the main blade. The holes shall be  $0.625 +0.063, -0$  inch in diameter. The blade shall be tapered from a thickness of  $0.025 +0.010, -0$  inch at the end opposite the carabiner holes to a thickness of  $0.120, +0.025, -0$  inch. The blade width shall be 0.870 inch minimum to 1.280 inches maximum.

**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.**

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3.3 Testing. The knifeblade pitons shall be pull tested in a vise. The vise opening shall consist of standard flat knurled parallel jaw. Eighty percent of the blade length of the piton shall be held firmly in the clamp. A 2000 pound minimum force shall be applied at a right angle to the gripping surface by insertion of a steel hook or link, diameter  $1/2 \pm 1/32$ , through the hole on the blade portion of the piton. Any piton that fails to withstand a minimum force of 2000 pounds without permanent deformation 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, cracks, sharp edges, slivers, flat areas or projections; 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; 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:

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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](http://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  
8465-0299

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Piton, Mountain, Knifeblade Offset

**Figure I**