

**INCH-POUND****A-A-50115B****September 26, 2000****SUPERSEDING****A-A-50115A****February 21, 1990**

## **COMMERCIAL ITEM DESCRIPTION**

### **PITON, MOUNTAIN, CLIFFHANGER**

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 the cliffhanger pitons to be used to provide direct aid for personnel in operations involving steep ascents by hooking the cliffhanger piton on rock edges and flakes.
2. **CLASSIFICATION.** The cliffhanger mountain pitons shall be of one type and size.
3. **SALIENT CHARACTERISTICS.**

3.1 **Design and construction.** The cliffhanger piton shall be heat-treated 4130 steel. The pitons shall be capable of withstanding a force of 600 pounds when tested as specified in 3.3. The finish shall be black oxide. The maximum weight shall be 1.5 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 thickness of the piton shall be  $0.125 \pm 0.004$  inch overall except the end of the hook shall be tapered. The hook end shall have a radius of  $0.750 \pm 0.062$  inch. The base of the cliffhanger shall be curved to create a bipod base. The curved width of the base shall be  $1.125 \pm 0.040$  inches tapering uniformly to a width of  $0.420 \pm 0.020$  inch at the end of the hook. The base shall have two holes. A large hole of  $0.370 \pm 0.020$  inch diameter at the base and a smaller hole of  $0.330 \pm 0.020$  inch diameter located directly above the large hole. The maximum length from the top of the hook to the base shall be 3.5 inches.

<b>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.</b>
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3.3 Testing. The cliffhanger piton shall be pull tested by hanging the piton on a 90-degree fixed corner. A 600-pound force shall be applied downward using a hook or link having a diameter of  $3/8 \pm 1/32$  inch. Any piton that fails to withstand a minimum force of 600 pounds without permanent deformation shall be classified as a defect. The test shall be performed at room temperature. The lot size shall be all pitons offered for delivery at one time. Any test failure shall be cause for rejection of the lot. 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; 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; fillets not rounded smoothly, not free of forging lap, blade tapers 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:

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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

**MILITARY INTERESTS:**

Custodians

Army – GL  
Air Force – 11.6  
Navy – MC

**CIVIL AGENCY COORDINATING ACTIVITY**  
**GSA - FSS**

**PREPARING ACTIVITY:**  
**DLA-CT**

Project Number  
8465-0315



**Figure I - Piton, Mountain, Cliffhanger**