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A-A-50197
June 30, 1989

COMMERCIAL ITEM DESCRIPTION

THREAD, LINEN

The General Services Administration has authorized the use of this commercial item description in preference to Federal Specification V-T-291.

1. CLASSIFICATION

1.1 Classification.

Type I - Three-cord (stitching) thread

Class 1 - Natural finish having no consistency or luster other than that inherent in the linen

Class 2 - Polished and lusterous, having a smooth dressed surface with no protruding fibers

Ticket number (size)	Ply	Minimum length per pound (yards) 1/ Class 1	Class 2	Minimum breaking strength (pounds) 2/ Classes 1 and 2
50	3	4,750	4,465	6.0
40	3	3,800	3,572	7.5
35	3	3,300	3,102	8.5
30	3	2,800	2,632	10.0
25	3	2,320	2,180	12.0
20	3	1,860	1,748	18.0
16	3	1,500	1,410	19.0

Beneficial comments, recommendations, additions, deletions, clarifications, etc. and any other data which may improve this document should be sent to: Commander, U.S. Army Natick Research, Development and Engineering Center, ATTN: STRNC-ES, Natick, MA 01760-5014.

AMSC N/A

FSC 8310

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Type II - Lockstitch twist thread

Class 1 - Natural finish having no consistency or luster other than that inherent in the linen

Class 2 - Polished and lusterous, having a smooth dressed surface with no protruding fibers

Ply	Minimum length per pound (yards) 1/ Class 1	Class 2	Minimum breaking strength (pounds) 2/ Classes 1 and 2
3	1,860	1,780	18
4	1,400	1,300	24
5	1,120	1,070	30
6	930	890	38
7	800	770	44
8	700	670	52
9	620	590	59
10	560	540	65
11	530	510	72
12	485	455	81

Type III - Hand shoe thread

Class 1 - Natural finish having no consistency or luster other than that inherent in the linen

Ticket number (size)	Ply	Minimum length per pound (yards) 1/	Minimum breaking strength (pounds) 2/
3	1	4,060	6
10	1	2,850	10

1/ Based on Test Method 4010 of FED-STD-191.

2/ Based on Test Method 4100 of FED-STD-191.

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2. SALIENT CHARACTERISTICS

2.1 General description. The thread shall be made of "long-line" flax. Types I and II shall have "S" or "Z" final twist as specified in the applicable end item specification or in the contract or order. Type III shall have a "Z" final twist.

2.2 Color. The thread shall be natural color (boiled or scoured), bleached white, or in shades (except for type III), as specified in the applicable end item specification or in the contract or order. Shade designations by letter (e.g., Olive Drab S-1) and related cable numbers (e.g., CA 66022) refer to the DOD Standard Shades for Sewing Threads 1968 (see 5.3.1).

2.3 Colorfastness. Unless otherwise specified in the end item specification or set forth in the contract or order, the dyed thread shall show "good" fastness to laundering (after 3 cycles), wet drycleaning, and light. The applicable test methods are as follows:

Characteristic	FED-STD-191 Test Method
Laundering (after 3 cycles)	5610 1/ 2/
Light	5660 3/
Wet drycleaning	5622
Perspiration (when specified)	5671 4/

1/ The test specimens shall be dried after each of the 3 laundering cycles.
2/ On the transfer cloth evaluation, only the stain on the cotton fibers of the color transfer cloth shall be evaluated.
3/ The time of exposure shall be 40 standard fading hours.
4/ The time of exposure shall be 40 hours.

2.4 Shade matching. The color of the finished thread, after removal of finish, shall match the standard sample when viewed under filtered tungsten lamps that approximate artificial daylight and that have a correlated color temperature of 7500 ± 200 K, with illumination of 100 ± 20 foot candles, and shall be a good match to the standard sample under incandescent lamplight at 2300 ± 200 K.

2.5 Finishing materials. The thread shall have no chemical finishes or treatments other than those commonly used in commercial threads or those demonstrated to have no deleterious effects on linen thread, including effects in prolonged storage. No chemical finishes or treatments shall be applied for the purpose of increasing breaking strength.

2.6 Put-up. Unless otherwise specified, the thread shall be put-up on holders such as commercial spools, cones, or tubes as specified in the contract. The thread shall be wound around the specified holder in one continuous piece, so that each turn and layer is free of entanglement. The outside ending of the thread shall be secured to prevent unwinding, loosening, or slipping during handling, shipping, or storage.

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2.7 Labeling. Each holder shall have a label adhered securely so as to remain in place and be clearly legible until all thread has been removed. The label shall be printed and include information related to length in yards, direction of twist, color, ply, size (ticket number), name of thread manufacturer, and nomenclature specifying type and class.

3. QUALITY ASSURANCE

3.1 Certification. The contractor shall certify, and maintain substantiating evidence, that the product offered meets the salient characteristics and requirements of this Commercial Item Description, and that the product conforms to the producer's own drawings, specifications, standards, and quality assurance practices. The Government reserves the right to require proof of such conformance prior to first delivery and thereafter as may be otherwise provided for under the provisions of the contract.

4. PACKAGING

4.1 Packaging. Tubes, cones, or spools of thread, of like description, weighing less than 8 ounces each, shall be packaged in set-up paperboard or folding paperboard boxes. Those weighing more than 8 ounces each shall be individually packaged in a snug-fitting clear plastic film bag. The bag shall be closed by means of a twist tie, or by tucking the open end into the end of the tube, cone, or spool.

4.2 Packing. Thread of like description, packaged as specified, shall be packed in a snug-fitting fiberboard shipping container conforming to style RSC-L, type CF, class domestic, variety SW, grade 275 of PPP-B-636. The inside of each fiberboard container shall be fitted with a liner conforming to type CF, variety DW, class domestic, grade 275 of PPP-B-636. The fiberboard liner is not required when thread is packaged in paperboard boxes. The shipping container shall be of a size that can be palletized in accordance with MIL-STD-147. The weight of a packed shipping container shall not exceed 50 pounds. Shipping containers shall be closed in accordance with the appendix of PPP-B-636.

4.3 Palletization. When specified (see 5.2), thread, packed as specified, shall be palletized on a 4-way entry pallet in accordance with load type Ia of MIL-STD-147. Pallet types shall be type I (4-way entry), type IV, or type V which shall be fabricated from wood groups I, II, III, or IV of MIL-STD-731. Each prepared load shall be bonded with primary and secondary straps in accordance with bonding means K and L or film bonding means O or P.

4.4 Marking. In addition to any special markings required by the contract or purchase order, unit packs, shipping containers, and palletized unit loads shall be marked in accordance with MIL-STD-129.

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5. NOTES

5.1 Intended use. The thread is intended for sewing by machine or by hand.

5.2 Ordering data.

a. Title, number, and date of this document.
b. Type, class, and size or ply of thread required (see 1.1).
c. Color required (see 2.2).
d. Colorfastness properties required (see 2.3).
e. When palletization is required (see 4.3).

5.3 Sources of documents.

5.3.1 Source of nongovernment documents.

THE COLOR ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES, INC.

Standard Color Card of America

Department of Defense Standard Shades for Sewing Threads

(Color cards may be available from the Color Association of the United States, Inc., 343 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10016-0927. If color cards are not available from the Color Association, individual color samples may be obtained from the contracting activity or as directed by the contracting activity.)

5.3.2 Source of government documents. Copies of military and Federal documents are available from:

Naval Publications and Forms Center
ATTN: NPODS
5801 Tabor Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19120-5099

5.4 Replacement data. The types and classes of linen thread covered by this commercial item description replace the items covered by V-T-291 as indicated below:

CID A-A-50197		V-T-291	
Type	Class	Type	Class
I	1	A	1
I	2	A	2
II	1	B	1
II	2	B	2
III	1	C	1

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MILITARY INTERESTS:

Custodians:
Army - GL
Navy - NU

Review activities:
Army - MD, EA
Navy - MC
DLA - CT
DNA - DS

User activity:
Army - ME

CIVIL AGENCY COORDINATING ACTIVITY:

GSA - FSS
HHS - NIH

PREPARING ACTIVITY:
Army - GL

(Project 8310-0165)