

INCH-POUND

A-A-55622B  
June 25, 1999  
SUPERSEDING  
A-A-55622A  
24 June 1998

## COMMERCIAL ITEM DESCRIPTION

### CORD, COTTON; SASH, VENETIAN BLIND, SPECIAL, AND GENERAL PURPOSE

The General Services Administration has authorized the use of this commercial item description for all Federal agencies.

1. **SCOPE.** This commercial item description (CID) covers solid braided or knitted cord for sash and general purpose, solid braided cord for special purpose, and diamond braided cord for venetian blinds.

2. **CLASSIFICATION.** Cord shall conform to the following types and classes:

- Type I - General purpose and sash cord (dyed or unbleached (natural))
  - Class 1 - Natural finish
  - Class 2 - Polished finish
  - Class 3 - Mildew resistant finish
- Type III - Venetian blind cord (dyed, unbleached (natural), or bleached)
  - Class 6 - Glazed polish finish
- Type IV - Special purpose cord (unbleached (natural) or bleached)

3. **SALIENT CHARACTERISTICS.**

3.1 **Material.** Cord shall be made of cotton, polyester and cotton blend, or polypropylene and cotton blend of suitable staple length and grade to meet the requirements of this document.

3.2 **Finish.**

3.2.1 **Class 1 (natural).** Natural finish shall denote a cord for which no consistency of luster other than that inherent in the material of paragraph 3.1 is required.

3.2.2 **Class 2 (polished).** Polished finish cord shall have a lustrous, smooth-dressed surface with no protruding fibers. All finishing or glazing material shall be added after braiding or knitting.

3.2.3 **Class 3 (mildew resistant).** The mildew-resistant treatment shall be copper-8-quinolinolate in conformance with the requirements of T-T-616.

Beneficial comments, recommendations, additions, deletions, clarifications, etc., and any other data which may improve this document should be sent to: Defense Supply Center Philadelphia, ATTN: DSCP-ICB, 700 Robbins Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19111-5096.

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3.2.4 Class 4 (polished and water-resistant). Class 4 cord shall be polished as in 3.2.2. and shall absorb not more than 8.0% water by weight after steeping for two hours.

3.2.5 Class 6 (glazed polished). Class 6 cord shall have a smooth-dressed surface with no protruding fibers.

3.3 Construction. The cord shall be of a braided or knitted construction. If the cord is knitted (for Type I cord only), it shall be produced using an interlace circular warp knitting process. The cord shall consist of a uniform number of yarns per strand with the strands firmly and evenly braided or knitted around a polycotton or cotton core. Type I cord shall be of solid braid or knit construction and may be manufactured with or without filler core yarns. Type III cord shall be of diamond braid construction. Type IV cord shall be of solid braid construction. The cord shall conform to the requirements of Tables 1, 2, and 3.

Table 1: Type I, General purpose and sash cord (solid braid or knit)

| Size | Diameter<br>(Inch $\pm$ 1/64) | Breaking<br>Strength<br>(lbs., Min.) | Linear Density<br>(lbs./100 FT., Max.) |                 |
|------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------|
|      |                               |                                      | Class 1                                | Classes 2 and 3 |
| 4    | 1/8                           | 100                                  | .50                                    | .60             |
| 5    | 5/32                          | 160                                  | 1.00                                   | 1.20            |
| 6    | 3/16                          | 240                                  | 1.50                                   | 1.80            |
| 7    | 7/32                          | 300                                  | 1.85                                   | 2.20            |
| 8    | 1/4                           | 370                                  | 2.25                                   | 2.70            |
| 10   | 5/16                          | 560                                  | 3.70                                   | 4.35            |
| 12   | 3/8                           | 720                                  | 5.00                                   | 5.90            |

Table 2: Type III, Venetian blind cord (diamond braid)

| Size | Diameter<br>(Inch $\pm$ 1/64) | Breaking<br>Strength<br>(lbs., Min.) | Core<br>Yarn<br>Quantity | Linear Density<br>(lbs/100 ft. , $\pm$ 10%) |
|------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| 4.5  | 9/64                          | 140                                  | 2                        | .485  |

Table 3: Type IV, Special purpose cord (solid braid)

| Size | Diameter<br>(Inch $\pm$ 1/64) | Breaking<br>Strength<br>(lbs., Min.) | Core<br>Yarn<br>Quantity | Linear Density<br>(lbs/100 ft., $\pm$ 10%) |
|------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 5    | 5/32                          | 180                                  | 5, 3 ply                 | 1.25                                       |

3.4 Color. Unless otherwise specified by contract, classes 1, 2, 4, and 6 cordage shall be issued in the unbleached (natural) state, and class 3 shall have the natural shade imparted by mildew resistant treatment. When shade is specified, the color shall be obtained by yarn dyeing.

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3.4.1 Colorfastness. When a specified shade and colorfastness is required, the color fastness properties shall be as specified in the contract or order (see 6.2). When the requirements for any of the following characteristics are specified, conformance shall be determined in accordance with the following methods as specified in FED-STD-191:

Color fastness to:

- Laundering - Method 5610
- Light - Method 5660
- Weathering - Method 5671

3.5 Elongation. Class 1 cord shall elongate no more than 10% and classes 2 and 3 cordage shall elongate no more than 8% when placed under a tension load equal to one percent of the minimum specified breaking strength. With the specimens under this load, two gage marks, a minimum of ten inches apart, shall be placed on the specimen and the distance between them recorded as "L". The specimens shall then be placed under the load specified in Table 4 for the applicable size for a minimum of 10 minutes. After 10 minutes and while still under this load, the distance between the gage marks shall be measured and recorded as "D". Class 4 cord shall elongate no more than 7% when placed under the load specified for a minimum of 15 minutes prior to measurement. Class 4 cord, after immersion, shall be tested after it has been steeped in water at a temperature of approximately 70° F for two hours. All lengths shall be determined to the nearest 1/16 inch. The elongation shall be determined by the following formula:

$$\frac{D - L}{L} \times 100 = \text{Percent Elongation}$$

Table 4, Loads for determination of elongation.

| Size                | Load(pounds) |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Classes 1, 2, and 3 |              |
| 4                   | 14           |
| 5                   | 22           |
| 6                   | 34           |
| 7                   | 40           |
| 8                   | 60           |
| 10                  | 80           |
| 12                  | 100          |
| Class 4             |              |
| 5                   | 50           |

3.6 Breaking Strength. The cord shall meet the breaking strength requirements as specified in Table 1, 2, or 3, as appropriate for the type cord, when tested in accordance with Method 6016 of FED-STD-191.

3.7 Extraneous Materials. No extraneous materials shall be added for the purpose of weighting the cord. Extractable matter shall not exceed 10%.

3.8 Put-up. Unless otherwise specified, put-up shall be as such: Type I cord, except class 2, size 6, as noted below, shall be put-up in coils measuring a minimum of 1200 ft. and a maximum of 1320 ft. in length. The coils shall contain not more than two lengths, and no length shall be less than 100 ft.. Type III cord shall be put-up on a spool measuring 3000 ft. in length, ± 10 %, and no length shall be less than 750 ft.. Type IV and Type I, class 2, size 6 cord shall be put-up in commercial hanks in continuous lengths of 100 ft. ± 10 ft.. In all cases, cordage ends shall not be joined or knotted for continuity.

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3.9 Identification. Cord shall be tagged with a label or ticket containing at least the following information: CID Part Number, National Stock Number, Length, Date of Manufacture, and Manufacturer's Name.

#### 4. REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

4.1 The offer/contractor is encouraged to use recovered materials to the 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 be the same product offered for sale in the commercial market. The government reserves the right to require proof of such conformance.

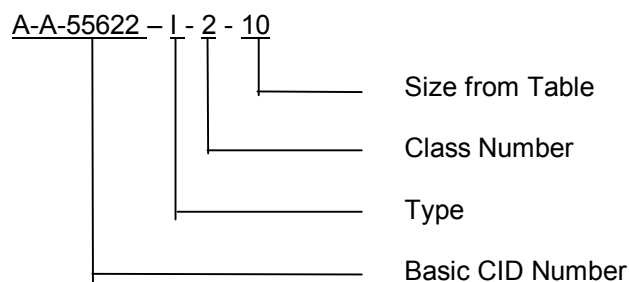
#### 6. PACKAGING

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

#### 7. NOTES

7.1 Part Identification Number (PIN). The PIN for Type I cord shall consist of the type number (I), followed by the class number (1, 2, or 3), followed by the size number from Table 1. The PIN for Types III and IV cordage shall consist of the type number (III or IV) followed by the size number from Table 2 or 3. Size 4.5 shall be written as "45".

PIN Example:



#### 7.2 Source of Documents.

Activities outside the Federal Government may obtain copies of federal specifications, standards and commercial item descriptions as specified in the General Information section of the Index of Specifications, Standards and Commercial Item Descriptions. The index is for sale on a subscription basis from the Superintendent of Documents, US Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

Copies of this commercial item description, federal specifications and standards are available from the General Services Administration, Federal Supply Service Bureau, Specification Section, Suite 8100, 470 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W. Washington, DC, 20407.

Federal Government activities may obtain copies of federal standardization documents and the Index of Federal Specifications, Standards and Commercial Items Descriptions from established distribution points in their agencies.

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7.3 Ordering Data. Purchasers should select the preferred options permitted herein and include the following information in procurement documents:

- a) Title, Number and Date of this Commercial Item Description
- b) Type, Class, and Size required (see 2.)
- c) Color, if other than unbleached for Types I, III, and IV (see 3.4)
- d) Degree of color fastness, if required (see 3.4.1)
- e) Put-up if other than specified for Types I, III, and IV (see 3.8)
- f) Selection of applicable levels of packaging and packing (see 5.1)

MILITARY INTERESTS:

Custodians:

Army - GL

CIVIL AGENCY  
COORDINATING ACTIVITIES:

GSA - FSS

HHS - NIH

Review Activities:

Army - MD1, EA, AR

Navy - MC

Preparing Activity:

DLA - IS

(Project Number 4020-0412)