QQ-L-101C
April 27, 1972
SUPERSEDING
Int. Fed. Spec, QQ-L-00101B(GSA-FSS)
April 9, 1971 and
Fed. Spec. QQ-L-101A
November 16, 1964

FEDERAL SPECIFICATION

LATH, METAL, (AND OTHER METAL PLASTER BASES)

This specification was approved by the Commissioner, Federal Supply Service, General Services Administration, for the use of all Federal agencies.

1. SCOPE AND CLASSIFICATION

1.1 Scope. This specification covers metal plaster base for use in interior and exterior construction as plaster bases for interior plaster and exterior stucco.

1.2 Classification. Metal plaster base shall be of the following types and classes, as specified (see 6.2).

Type I - Rib metal, solid partitions, studless.
Class 1 - 3/8 inch rib lath.
2 - 3/4 inch rib lath.

Type II - Plaster solid partition.
Class 3 - Diamond mesh.
4 - Flat rib.

Type III - Hollow partitions, prefabricated studs.
IV - Hollow partitions, channel studs.
V - Sound insulating, double partitions.
VI - Vertical furring.
VII - Lath on wood studs.
VIII - Beam boxes.
Class I - 3/8 inch rib.
3 - Diamond mesh.
4 - Flat rib.
5 - Sheet.

Type IX - Lath on exteriors, stucco.
Class 1 - 3/8 inch rib lath.
2 - 3/4 inch rib lath.
3 - Diamond mesh.
4 - Flat rib.
5 - Sheet.
6 - Stucco.

Type X - Contact ceilings.
XI - Furred ceilings.

XII - Suspended ceilings.

Class 1 - 3/8 inch rib lath.
2 - 3/4 inch rib lath.
3 - Diamond mesh.
4 - Flat rib.
5 - Sheet.

Type XIII - Column lath.
Class 1 - 3/8 inch rib lath.
2 - 3/4 inch rib lath.
3 - Diamond mesh.
4 - Flat rib.

Type XIV - Corner reinforcement.
Class 3 - Diamond mesh.

Type XV - Woven wire fabric.

2. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

2.1 The following documents, of the issues in effect on the date of invitation for bids or request for proposal, form a part of this specification to the extent specified herein.

Federal Specifications:

PPP-B-585 - Boxes, Wood, Wirebound.
PPP-B-591 - Boxes, Fiberboard, Wood-Cleated.
PPP-B-601 - Boxes, Wood, Cleated-Plywood.
PPP-B-621 - Boxes, Wood, Nailed and Lock-Corner.
PPP-B-640 - Boxes, Fiberboard, Corrugated, Triple Wall.
PPP-B-650 - Grates, Wood, Open and Covered.

Federal Standard:

Fed. Std. No. 123 - Marking for Domestic Shipment (Civil Agencies).

(Activities outside the Federal Government may obtain copies of Federal Specifications, Standards, and Handbooks as outlined under General Information in the Index of Federal Specifications and standards and at the prices indicated in the Index. The Index, which includes cumulative monthly supplements as issued, is for sale on subscription basis by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

(Single copies of this specification and other Federal Specifications required by activities outside the Federal Government for bidding purposes are available without charge from Business Service Centers at the General Services Administration Regional Offices in Boston, New York, Washington, DC, Atlanta, Chicago, Kansas City, MO, Fort Worth, Denver, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Seattle, WA.

(Federal Government activities may obtain copies of Federal Specifications, Standards, and Handbooks and the Index of Federal Specifications and Standards from the established distribution points in their agencies.)

Military Standards:

MIL-STD-105 - Sampling and Tables for Inspection by Attributes.
MIL-STD-129 - Marking for Shipment and Storage.

(Copies of Military Specifications and Standards required by suppliers in connection with specific procurement functions should be obtained from the procuring activity or as directed by the contracting officer.)

2.2 Other publications. The following document forms a part of this specification to the extent specified herein. Unless a specific issue is identified, the issue in effect on date of invitation for bids or request for proposal.

American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Standard:

A568 - General Requirements for Carbon and High-Strength Low-Alloy Steel, Hot-Rolled Strip, Hot-Rolled Sheets, and Cold-Rolled Sheets.

(Application for copies should be addressed to the American Society for Testing and Materials, 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103.)

National Motor Freight traffic Association, Inc., Agent:

National Motor Freight Classification.

(Application for copies should be addressed to the American Trucking Association, Inc., Tariff Order Section, 1616 P Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036.)

Uniform Classification Committee, Agent:

(Application for copies should be addressed to the Uniform Classification Committee, Room 1106, 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606.)

3. REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Material. All lath shall be steel. Unless otherwise specified (see 6.2), the type of steel shall be at the manufacturer's option.

3.2 Finish. Unless otherwise specified (see 6.2), lath shall be galvanized or painted at the manufacturer's option. Weight of zinc an thickness of paint shall be at the manufactures's option.

3.3 Weights, types I through XIV.

3.3.1 Class 1, rib lath, 3/8 inch. Weight of 3/8 inch rib shall be 3.4 or 4.0 pounds per square yard (p.s.y.), as Specified (see 4.4.1 and 6.2).

3.3.2 Class 2, rib lath, 3/4 inch. Weight of 3/4 inch rib lath shall be 0.60

or 0.75 pounds per square foot (p.s.f.), as specified (see 4.4.1 and 6.2).

3.3.3 Class 3, diamond mesh. Weight of mesh for types II to VII inclusive, and types X, XI and XII shall be 2.5 or 3.4 p.s.y., as specified (see 4.4.1 and 6.2). Weight of diamond mesh for types VIII and IX shall be 3.4 p.s.y. (see 4.4.1).

3.3.4 Class 4, flat rib. Weight of mesh shall be 2.75 or 3.4 p.s.y., as specified (see 4.4.1 and 6.2).

3.3.5 Class 5, sheet lath. Weight of sheet lath shall be 4.5 p.s.y. (see 4.4.1).

3.3.6 Class 6, stucco mesh. Weight of stucco mesh shall be 1.8 or 3.6 p.s.y., as specified (see 4.4.1 and 6.2).

3.3.7 Weight tolerances. The allowable variations in percentage over and under the nominal weights of metal lath shall be in accordance with mill tolerances in ASTM A568 for cold-rolled sheets (see 4.4.1).

3.4 Type XIII, column lath.

3.4.1 Wide flange, I-beam and fabricated columns. Lath shall be class 3 diamond mesh, 3.4 p.s.y. (see 4.4.1).

3.4.2 Pipe columns. Lath shall be class 2 rib lath 6.75 p.s.y., or class 3 diamond mesh 3.4 p.s.y. (see 4.4.1).

3.5 Type XIV, corner reinforcement. Corner reinforcement shall be 2 inches or greater in width on each side.

3.6 Type XV woven wire fabric.

3.6.1 Wire size and mesh. Wire gage and mesh sizes shall be as specified (see 6.2):

Wire gage	Mesh size, maximum
Steel wire gage	Inches
18	1
17	1-1/2
16	2

Unless otherwise specified (see 6.2), tolerance on diameter and out-of-round for wire shall be a the manufacturer’s option.

3.6.2 Backing. When paper-backed mesh is specified, sheathing paper may be omitted.

3.7 Paper, and plastic backing. Lath shall be with or without a backing, as specified (see 6.2). Waterproofed backing for metal plaster base with backing shall be as follows, and as specified (see 6.2):

(a) Two sheets of waterproofed paper cemented together with asphalt.
(b) Single sheet impregnated with asphalt coating.

(c) Clear PE film.

Backing sheets and PE film shall be of such size as to completely cover the metal face on one side after installation. Absorptive paper shall not be waterproofed with asphalt, but shall be sized with resin or starch for base to receive gypsum, lime, and keens's cement plasters. Absorptive paper usually is preferable to waterproofed paper.

3.8 Bonding. Metal plaster-base shall provide a mechanical bond and continuous reinforcement, in at least two different directions, for plaster or stucco applied by ordinary plastering operations and it shall permit at least 1/2 of the total weight of metal to be embedded fully with a covering of at least 1/16 inch at all points.

3.9 Workmanship. Metal plaster-base shall not be crushed or deformed in a manner affecting function or serviceability.

4. QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS

4.1 Responsibility for inspection. Unless otherwise specified in the contract or purchase order, the supplier is responsible for the performance of all inspection requirements as specified herein. Except as other specified, the supplier may utilize his own facilities or any commercial laboratory acceptable to the Government. The Government reserves the right to perform any of the inspections set forth in the specifications where such inspections are deemed necessary to assure that supplies and services conform to prescribed requirements.

4.2 Sampling.

4.2.1 Lot. Unless otherwise specified (see 6.2), a lot shall consist of all metal lath of the same type class and weight submitted for inspection at the same time.

4.2.2 Visual and dimensional examination of end item, and samples for test. Sampling for examination shall be in accordance with level S-3 in MIL-STD-105, and for tests shall be level S-2.

4.3 Examination.

4.3.1 End item. Metal lath shall be examined for defects listed in table I. The acceptable quality levels (AQL's) for defects shall be 2.5 percent defective for major defects and 4.0 percent defective for minor defects.

TABLE I. Classification of defects, end item

Defects	Major	Minor
Type, class and weight of lath not as specified.	X	
Finish of lath not as specified when required.	X	
Weight of lath not within tolerance for types I to XIII.	X	
Sides of corner lath less than 2 inches in width.	X	
Backing on lath missing when required, or kind of backing not as specified.	X	
Mechanical bond in one direction only.	X	

Damage or defects affecting function or serviceability	X	
Damage or defects not affecting function or serviceability		X

4.3.2 Inspection of preparation for delivery requirements. An inspection shall be made to determine that the packing and marking requirements comply with section 5 of this specification. Defects shall be scored in accordance with table II. For examination of contents of the sample unit shall be one shipping container fully prepared for delivery selected just prior to the closing operations. Sampling shall be in accordance with MIL-STD-105. Defects of closure listed shall be examined on shipping containers fully prepared for delivery. The lot size shall be the number of shipping containers in the end item inspection lot. The inspection level shall be S-2 and the AQL shall be 4.0 defects per hundred units.

TABLE II. Classification of preparation for delivery defects

Examine	Defects
Markings (exterior and interior)	Omitted; incorrect; illegible; improper size, location, sequence or method of application.
Materials	Any component missing or damaged.
Workmanship	Inadequate application of components, such as incomplete closure of container flaps, loose strapping, inadequate stapling. Bulging or distortion of container.

4.4 Test methods.

4.4.1 Weight of metal base. Cut a sample 2 square yards in area, remove any backing, the weigh and finally calculate weight in p.s.y. or p.s.f. as applicable (see 3.3.1 to 3.3.7, 3.4.1 and 3.4.2).

5. PREPARATION FOR DELIVERY

5.1 Packaging. Packaging shall be level A or C as specified (see 6.2).

5.1.1 Level A.

5.1.1.1 Lath sheets. Lath of like description in size sheets and quantities as specified (see 6.2) shall be bundled flat and tied together with 18 gage (0.0475 inch diameter, 0.0463 minimum diameter) annealed wire.

5.1.1.2 Lath rolls. Lath width and lengths as specified (see 6.2) shall be rolled to the minimum safe diameter and ties with 18 gage annealed wire or strapping to prevent unwinding.

5.1.2 Level C. The lath shall be packed in accordance with the manufacturers

standard practice, providing that this will insure protection for the lath during shipment and provide safe delivery to its destination.

5.2 Packing. Packing shall be level A, B, or C, as specified (see 6.2).

5.2.1 Level A. Lath of like description packaged as specified in 5.1.1.1 or 5.1.1.2 shall be packed in quantities as specified (see 6.2) in close-fitting boxes conforming to PPP-B-585, class 3; PPP-B-591, class II; PPP-B-601, overseas type; PPP-B-621, class 2; PPP-B-640, class 2, grade A, or in a crate conforming to PPP-C-650 whichever is applicable. The gross weight of the triple wall fiberboard box and the wood boxes shall not exceed 200 pounds. Closure shall be in accordance with the appendix to the applicable box or crate specification.

5.2.2 Level B. Lath of like description packaged in bundles as specified in 5.1.1.1 shall be packed flat on a pallet in quantities as specified (see 6.2). The lath shall be secured to the pallet with strapping. Rolls of lath packaged as specified in 5.1.1.2 shall be packed in close-fitting boxes conforming to PP-B-585, class 1; PPP-B-591, class I; PPP-B-601, domestic type; or PPP-B-621, class 1.

5.2.3 Level C. Lath packaged as specified in 5.1, shall be packed to insure carrier acceptance and safe delivery to destination in containers complying with National Motor Freight Classification or Uniform Freight Classification.

5.3 Marking. In addition to any special marking required by the contract or order, interior packages, and shipping containers shall be marked in accordance with Fed. Std. No. 123 or MIL-STD-129 as applicable (see 6.2).

6. NOTES

6.1 Intended use. Metal plaster base is intended for use in interior and exterior construction as a base for plaster application.

6.2 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 specification.
(b) Type and class (see 1.2).
(c) Material (see 3.1).
(d) Finish (see 3.2).
(e) Types I to XIV, weight of lath (see 3.3.1, 3.3.1, 3.3.3, 3.3.4 and 3.3.6).
(f) Type XV, wire size and tolerance (see 3.6.1).
(g) Backing material when required (see 3.7).
(h) Size of lot, if different from 4.2.1.
(i) Selection of applicable level of packaging and packing required and marking (see 5.1, 5.2, and 5.3).
(j) Accessories (see 6.3).
(k) Quantity (see 6.4 and 6.5).

6.3 Accessories. Accessories include such items as nails, staples, and wire for securing metal lath to studs.

6.4 Size. Normal size of lath is 27 inches in width by; 96 inches long (2 square

yards). Class 2 rib lath is available in 100 square feet sections.

6.5 Metal lath per bundle. Ordinarily 10 sheets are available in each bundle. Class 6 stucco mesh is available in 9 sheets per bundle in 1.8 p.s.y. weight, and 5 sheets per bundle in 3.6 p.s.y. weight.

6.6 Bundles per pallet. Pallets with 50 bundles are available for most types. Class 5 sheet lath has 30 bundles per pallet, and class 2 rib lath 3/4 inch, has 20 bundles per pallet.

6.7 Cross reference data. Cross reference between types of QQ-L-101A and classes of this specification are as follows:

QQ-L-101A Type F	QQ-L-101C Class 3, 5 and 6
SF	3
FR	4
F3/8R	1
F3/4R	2
FB	3 and 6[1]
SFB	3[1]
FRB	4[1]
F3/8RB	1[1]

MILITARY INTEREST

Coordinating Activity

YD

Preparing Activity:

GSA-FSS

User Activity:

CE, MC

Orders for this publication are to be placed with the General Services Administration, acting as an agent for the Superintendent of Documents. See Section 2 of this specification to obtain extra copies and other documents referenced herein. Price 10 cents each