

INCH-POUND

MIL-B-43826C
6 September 1989
SUPERSEDING
MIL-B-43826B
21 December 1982

MILITARY SPECIFICATION

BELT, INDIVIDUAL EQUIPMENT

This specification is approved for use by all Departments and Agencies of the Department of Defense.

1. SCOPE

1.1 Scope. This specification covers one type of adjustable individual equipment belt made from olive drab nylon webbing, plastic and miscellaneous metallic hardware.

1.2 Classification. The individual equipment belts shall be of the following sizes as specified (see 6.2).

Medium - Waist under 30 inches
Large - Waist 30 inches or over

2. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

2.1 Government documents.

2.1.1 Specifications, standards, and handbooks. The following specifications, standards, and handbooks form a part of this document to the extent specified herein. Unless otherwise specified, the issues of these documents are those listed in the issue of the Department of Defense Index of Specifications and Standards (DODISS) and supplement thereto, cited in the solicitation (see 6.2).

Beneficial comments (recommendations, additions, deletions) and any pertinent data which may be of use in improving this document should be addressed to: U.S. Army Natick Research, Development, and Engineering Center, Natick, MA 01760-5014 by using the self-addressed Standardization Document Improvement Proposal (DD Form 1426) appearing at the end of this document or by letter.

AMSC N/A

FSC 8465

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SPECIFICATIONS

FEDERAL

- A-A-203 - Paper, Kraft, Untreated
- DDD-L-20 - Label: For Clothing, Equipage, and Tentage, (General Use)
- PPP-B-636 - Boxes, Shipping, Fiberboard

MILITARY

- MIL-L-35078 - Loads, Unit: Preparation of Semiperishable Subsistence Items; Clothing, Personal Equipment and Equipage; General Specification For

STANDARDS

MILITARY

- MIL-STD-105 - Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes
- MIL-STD-129 - Marking for Shipment and Storage
- MIL-STD-147 - Palletized Unit Loads
- MIL-STD-731 - Quality of Wood Members for Containers and Pallets

(Unless otherwise indicated, copies of federal and military specifications, standards, and handbooks are available from the Naval Publications and Forms Center, (ATTN: NPODS), 5801 Tabor Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19120-5099.)

2.1.2 Other Government documents, drawings, and publications. The following other Government documents, drawings, and publications form a part of this document to the extent specified herein. Unless otherwise specified, the issues are those cited in the solicitation.

DRAWINGS

U.S. ARMY NATICK RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND ENGINEERING CENTER

- 2-2-309 - Belt, Individual Equipment
- 2-2-498 - Belt Assembly

(Copies of drawings are available from the U.S. Army Natick Research, Development, and Engineering Center, ATTN: STRNC-EMSS, Natick, MA 01760-5014.)

2.2 Non-Government publications. The following document forms a part of this document to the extent specified herein. Unless otherwise specified, the issues of the documents which are DoD adopted are those listed in the issue of the DODISS cited in the solicitation. Unless otherwise specified, the issues of documents not listed in the DODISS are the issues of the documents cited in the solicitation (see 6.2).

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AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR TESTING AND MATERIALS (ASTM)

D 3951 - Standard Practice for Commercial Packaging

(Application for copies should be addressed to the American Society for Testing and Materials, 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103-1187.)

(Non-Government standards and other publications are normally available from the organizations that prepare or distribute the documents. These documents also may be available in or through libraries or other informational services.)

2.3 Order of precedence. In the event of a conflict between the text of this document and the references cited herein, the text of this document takes precedence. Nothing in this document, however, supersedes applicable laws and regulations unless a specific exemption has been obtained.

3. REQUIREMENTS

3.1 First article. When specified (see 6.2), a sample shall be subjected to first article inspection (see 6.3) in accordance with 4.3.

3.2 Guide samples. Guide samples, when furnished, are solely for guidance and information (see 6.4). Variations from the document may appear in the samples, in which case this document shall govern.

3.3 Materials. The materials shall be as specified on Drawing 2-2-309 and all subsidiary drawings and parts lists (PLS) pertaining thereto. It is encouraged that recycled material be used when practical as long as it meets the requirements of this specification.

3.4 Design and construction. The design and construction of the belt shall conform to the design, shape and dimensions shown on Drawing 2-2-309 and (PLS) as specified herein.

3.4.1 Setting of eyelet with washer. Holes shall be prepunched or predrilled in the nylon webbing to receive the eyelets and shall be smaller than the outside diameter of the eyelet barrel so that the barrels must be forced through the holes. The eyelets with washer shall be securely clinched in a manner that will prevent detachment from or cutting of the webbing. The eyelets shall be clinched without splitting.

3.4.2 Stitches, seams and stitching. All seams and stitchings shall be as specified on the drawings.

3.4.2.1 Automatic stitching. Automatic stitching machines may be used to perform any of the stitch patterns provided the requirements for the stitch pattern, stitches per inch, and size and type of thread are met; and at least three or more tying, overlapping or back stitches are used to secure the ends of stitching.

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3.4.2.2 Lubrication of thread. There shall be no lubrication of the thread prior to or during sewing (see 4.4.1.1).

3.4.2.3 Type 301 stitching. Ends of all stitching shall be backstitched or overstitched as specified on the drawings except where ends are turned under or caught in other seams or stitching. Thread tensions shall be maintained so that there will be no loose stitching resulting in loose bobbin or top thread or excessively tight stitching resulting in puckering of the materials sewn. The lock shall be imbedded in the materials sewn.

3.4.2.3.1 Repairs of type 301 stitching. Repairs of type 301 stitching shall be as follows:

a. When thread breaks or bobbin run-outs occur during stitching, the stitching shall be repaired by restarting the stitching a minimum of 1/2 inch back of the end of the stitching.

b. Thread breaks or two or more consecutive skipped or runoff stitches noted during inspection of the item (in-process or end item) shall be repaired by overstitching. The stitching shall start a minimum of 1/2 inch in back of the defective area, continue over the defective area, and continue a minimum of 1/2 inch beyond the defective area onto the existing stitching. Loose or excessively tight stitching shall be repaired by removing the defective stitching without damaging the materials and restitching in the required manner.

(When making the above repairs in a. and b. above, the ends of the stitching are not required to be backstitched.)

3.4.2.4 Thread ends. All thread ends that are visible on the finished item shall be trimmed to a maximum length of 1/4 inch.

3.4.3 Fusing of ends of nylon webbing. The ends of the nylon webbing shall be fused smooth in such a manner as to prevent sharp edges from forming. The apparatus used to fuse the webbing ends shall be capable of providing sufficient heat to fuse the cut ends of the webbing yarns together.

3.4.4 Setting of snap fasteners. A hole shall be prepunched or predrilled through the materials to receive the button and eyelet components of the snap fasteners. The hole shall be smaller than the outside diameter of the button and eyelet barrels so that the barrel must be forced through the hole. The hole shall not be punched in the setting operation with the button or eyelet barrel. The fasteners shall be securely clinched without cutting the surrounding materials and no more than three splits shall occur in the button or eyelet barrels.

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3.5 Label. The belt shall have a combination size and identification label. The label shall conform to type VI, class 5 of DDD-L-20 except that the print shall be a minimum of 10 point and the color of the label shall be medium green (see 6.5). The size and attachment location of the label to the belt shall be as shown on Drawing 2-2-498. The contents of the label may read either across the belt or along the belt. The information required for the size shall include the waist dimension, for example the information required for the size medium belt shall be "size medium-waist under 30 inches".

3.5.1 Marking. The letters "US" shall be applied in the size characters and in the location shown on Drawing 2-2-498 and shall conform to type IV, class 9 of DDD-L-20. Fastness for class 9 marking shall be as specified for class 5 marking.

3.6 Replacement of defective components. During the spreading, cutting and manufacturing process, components of the belt having material defects or damages that are classified as defects in table II shall be removed from production and replaced with non-defective and properly matched components.

3.7 Workmanship. The end item shall conform to the quality of product established by this specification.

4. QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS

4.1 Responsibility for inspection. Unless otherwise specified in the contract or purchase order, the contractor is responsible for the performance of all inspection requirements (examinations and tests) as specified herein. Except as otherwise specified in the contract or purchase order, the contractor may use his own or any other facilities suitable for the performance of the inspection requirements specified herein, unless disapproved by the Government. The Government reserves the right to perform any of the inspections set forth in this specification where such inspections are deemed necessary to ensure supplies and services conform to prescribed requirements.

4.1.1 Responsibility for compliance. All items shall meet all requirements of sections 3 and 5. The inspection set forth in this specification shall become a part of the contractor's overall inspection system or quality program. The absence of any inspection requirements in the specification shall not relieve the contractor of the responsibility of ensuring that all products or supplies submitted to the Government for acceptance comply with all requirements of the contract. Sampling inspection, as part of manufacturing operations, is an acceptable practice to ascertain conformance to requirements, however, this does not authorize submission of known defective material, either indicated or actual, nor does it commit the Government to accept defective material.

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4.1.2 Responsibility for dimensional requirements. Unless otherwise specified in the contract or purchase order, the contractor is responsible for ensuring that all specified dimensions have been met. When dimensions cannot be examined on the end item, inspection shall be made at any point, or at all points in the manufacturing process necessary to ensure compliance with all dimensional requirements.

4.1.3 Certificates of compliance. When certificates of compliance are submitted, the Government reserves the right to inspect such items to determine the validity of the certification.

4.2 Classification of inspections. The inspection requirements specified herein are classified as follows:

- a. First article inspection (see 4.3).
- b. Quality conformance inspection (see 4.4).

4.3 First article inspection. When a first article is required (see 3.1 and 6.2), it shall be examined for the defects specified in 4.4.2 and 4.4.3.

4.4 Quality conformance inspection. Unless otherwise specified, sampling for inspection shall be performed in accordance with MIL-STD-105.

4.4.1 Component and material inspection. In accordance with 4.1, components and materials shall be inspected in accordance with all the requirements of referenced documents unless otherwise excluded, amended, modified, or qualified in this specification or applicable purchase document.

4.4.1.1 Component and material certification. A certificate of compliance may be acceptable as evidence that the thread lubrication conforms to the requirement specified in 3.4.2.2.

4.4.2 In-process inspection. Inspection of subassemblies shall be made to ascertain that construction details specified in 4.4.2.1 and 4.4.2.2 which cannot be examined in the finished product are in accordance with specified requirements. The Government reserves the right to exclude from consideration for acceptance, any material or service for which in-process inspection has indicated nonconformance.

4.4.2.1 In-process inspection of prepunched holes. Inspection shall be conducted to determine whether prepunching or predrilling requirements specified in 3.4.1 and 3.4.4 have been accomplished as specified. Whenever nonconformance is noted, correction shall be made to the parts affected and lot in process parts which cannot be corrected shall be removed from production.

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4.4.2.2 In-process dimensional inspection. Inspection shall be conducted on belts prior to attaching the fabric keeper, buckle and sliding keeper to determine if location of eyelets and length of body after installation of eyelets, conform to specified dimensions on drawing 2-2-498. The lot size shall be expressed in units of belts. The sample unit shall be one partly fabricated belt. The inspection level shall be S-3 (see 6.6).

TABLE I. In process dimensional examination

Examine	Defect	Classification	
		Major	Minor
Overall length of body	Not as specified exceeding tolerances:		
	- up to and including 1/4 inch - by more than 1/4 inch	101	201
Location of eyelets	Any not located horizontally exceeding tolerances:		
	- up to and including 1/8 inch - by more than 1/8 inch	102	202
	Any not located vertically as specified exceeding tolerances:		
	- up to and including 1/16 inch - by more than 1/16 inch	103	203

4.4.3 End item visual examination. The end items shall be examined for the defects listed in table II. The lot size shall be expressed in units of belts. The sample unit shall be one belt. The inspection level shall be II (see 6.6).

TABLE II. End item visual examination

Examine	Defect	Classification	
		Major	Minor
Webbing	Not firmly and tightly woven; edges frayed or scalloped	101	
	Multiple floats		201
	Any cut, hole, tear or smash	102	
	Abrasion mark, slub, broken end or pick		202
	Ends not fused as specified (where required)		203

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TABLE II. End item visual examination (cont'd)

Examine	Defect	Classification	
		Major	Minor
Metal hardware (general)	Broken or malformed failing to serve intended purpose, corroded area, burr or sharp edge	103	
	Finish omitted, partially omitted or not as specified:		
	-on brass components		204
	-on steel components	104	
	Not assembled as specified (unless otherwise classified herein)	105	
	Not specified type, size or style	106	
Eyelet	Insecurely clinched or clinched excessively tight, cutting fabric	107	
	Installed with scored side on outside of belt		205
	Not set with a scored setting		206
Snap fasteners	Any fastener not functioning properly i.e., fails to snap closed, to provide a secure closure, or to open freely	108	
	NOTE: The fasteners shall be snapped and unsnapped twice to determine whether parts of fastener separate freely and also effect a secure closure.		
	Clinched excessively tight, cutting adjacent material	109	
	Clinched loosely, permitting any component to rotate freely but not to the degree that any component can be expected to become detached during use		207
	Clinched loosely to the degree that components can be expected to become detached during use	110	

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TABLE II. End item visual examination (cont'd)

Examine	Defect	Classification	
		Major	Minor
Snap fasteners (cont'd)	NOTE: Incomplete roll of end of button or eyelet barrel is evidence of improper and insecure clinching.		
	Incorrect style	111	
	More than three splits in eyelet or button barrels		208
Seam and stitch type	Not specified seam or stitch type	112	
Stitch tension	Loose, resulting in a loose bobbin or top thread		209
	Tight, resulting in puckering of material		210
Stitches per inch	One stitch less than minimum specified		211
	Two or more stitches less than minimum specified	113	
	One or more stitches in excess of maximum specified		212
Thread breaks, skipped stitches, or runoffs	Not overstitched as specified		213
	NOTE: Thread breaks or two or more consecutive skipped or runoff stitches not overstitched shall be classified as open seams.		
Stitching ends	Not secured as specified		214
Belt buckle (plastic)	Color not as specified		215
	Color not molded in		216
	Broken, cracked or chipped	114	
	Any sink mark		217
	Any flash	115	

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TABLE II. End item visual examination (cont'd)

Examine	Defect	Classification	
		Major	Minor
Belt buckle (plastic) (cont'd)	Gates not trimmed as specified		218
	Surface not smooth		219
	Fasteners attached in reversed position or either component attached facing wrong direction	116	
	Any defect of belt fastener engaging the male and female components	117	
Component and assembly	Any component part or required operation omitted or not as specified (unless otherwise classified herein)	118	
	Any needle chew	119	
	Any mend, darn, patch or splice	120	
Marking	Omitted, incorrect, illegible, or misplaced, or size of characters not as specified, label not medium green		220
Cleanness	Any spot or stain clearly noticeable		221
Thread ends	Not trimmed to 1/4 inch maximum length		222

4.4.4 Packaging examination. The fully packaged end items shall be examined for the defects listed below. The lot size shall be expressed in units of shipping containers. The sample unit shall be one shipping container fully packaged. The inspection level shall be S-2 (see 6.6).

<u>Examine</u>	<u>Defect</u>
Marking (exterior and interior)	Omitted; incorrect; illegible; of improper size, location, sequence, or method of application
Materials	Any component missing, damaged, or not as specified
Workmanship	Inadequate application of components, such as: incomplete sealing or closure of flap, improper taping, loose strapping or inadequate stapling Bulged or distorted container

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<u>Examine</u>	<u>Defect</u>
Content	Number of bundles per container is more or less than required <u>1/</u>

1/ For this defect, one bundle shall be examined from each container in the sample.

4.4.5 Palletization examination. The fully packaged and palletized end items shall be examined for the defects listed below. The lot size shall be expressed in units of palletized unit loads. The sample unit shall be one palletized unit load, fully packaged. The inspection level shall be S-1 (see 6.6).

<u>Examine</u>	<u>Defect</u>
Finished dimensions	Length, width, or height exceeds specified maximum requirement
Palletization	Pallet pattern not as specified Interlocking of loads not as specified Load not bonded as specified
Weight	Exceeds maximum load limits
Marking	Omitted; incorrect; illegible; of improper size, location, sequence, or method of application

5. PACKAGING

5.1 Preservation. Preservation shall be level A or Commercial as specified (see 6.2).

5.1.1 Level A preservation. Each belt shall be adjusted to an approximate 32 inch length. The belt shall then be folded in half with the "US" showing. Ten folded belts of one size only shall be stacked in a bundle with the belt fasteners alternately reversed, and securely tied at each end with cotton, tape, twine or plastic strapping.

5.1.2 Commercial preservation. Belts shall be preserved in accordance with ASTM D 3951.

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

5.2.1 Level A packing. Forty belts of one size only, preserved as specified in 5.1, shall be packed in a fiberboard shipping container conforming to style RSC-L, grade V2s of PPP-B-636. The inside of each shipping container shall be fitted with a box liner conforming to type CF,

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class weather-resistant, variety DW, grade V15c of PPP-B-636. Belts bundled as specified in 5.1.1, shall be packed on edge one in length, one in width and four in depth within a shipping container. Inside dimensions of each shipping container shall approximate 15 inches in length, 10 inches in width, and 10-1/2 inches in depth. Approximate dimensions are furnished as a guide only. Each container shall have the contents completely covered on the top and bottom with a sheet of 30-pound minimum basis weight kraft paper conforming to A-A-203. Each shipping container shall be closed in accordance with method III, waterproofed in accordance with method V and reinforced as specified in the appendix of PPP-B-636, except that the inspection shall be in accordance with 4.4.4. Shipping containers shall be arranged in unit loads in accordance with MIL-L-35078 for the type and class of load specified (see 6.2). Strapping shall be limited to nonmetallic strapping, except for type II, class F loads.

5.2.2 Level B packing. Forty belts of one size only, preserved as specified in 5.1, shall be packed in a fiberboard shipping container conforming to style RSC-L, type CF (variety SW) or SF, class domestic, grade 275 of PPP-B-636. The inside of each shipping container shall be fitted with a box liner conforming to type CF, class domestic, variety DW, grade 275 of PPP-B-636. Belts bundled as specified in 5.1.1, shall be packed on edge one in length, one in width, and four in depth within a shipping container. Inside dimensions of each shipping container shall approximate 15 inches in length, 10 inches in width and 10-1/2 inches in depth. Approximate dimensions are furnished as a guide only. Each container shall have the contents completely covered on the top and bottom with a sheet of 30-pound minimum basis weight kraft paper conforming to A-A-203. Each shipping container shall be closed in accordance with method II as specified in the appendix of PPP-B-636, except that the inspection shall be in accordance with 4.4.4.

5.2.2.1 Weather-resistant fiberboard containers. When specified (see 6.2), the shipping container shall be a grade V3c, V3s or V4s fiberboard box fabricated in accordance with PPP-B-636 and closed in accordance with method III as specified in the appendix of PPP-B-636, except that the inspection shall be in accordance with 4.4.4.

5.2.3 Commercial packing. Belts, preserved as specified in 5.1, shall be packed in accordance with ASTM D 3951.

5.3 Palletization. When specified (see 6.2), belts packed as specified in 5.2.2 and 5.2.3 shall be palletized on a four-way entry pallet in accordance with load type Ia of MIL-STD-147. Pallet types shall be type I (four-way entry), type IV, or type V in accordance with MIL-STD-147. Pallets 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 C and D or film bonding means F or G. Pallet pattern shall be number 14 in accordance with the appendix of MIL-STD-147.

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5.4 Marking. In addition to any special marking required by the contract or purchase order, bundles, shipping containers and palletized unit loads shall be marked in accordance with MIL-STD-129 or ASTM D 3951, as applicable.

6. NOTES

(This section contains information of a general or explanatory nature that may be helpful, but is not mandatory.)

6.1 Intended use. The belt is worn by military personnel to carry various items of individual equipment, such as the water canteen and ammunition case which are suspended on the belt by keepers or by double hooks inserted through eyelets so spaced on the belt as to accommodate this equipment. The belt is also used in conjunction with the field pack suspenders, the suspender hooks being attachable to the top edge row of eyelets to help support the weight of the belt and its attached equipment.

6.2 Acquisition requirements. Acquisition documents must specify the following:

- a. Title, number and date of this document.
- b. Size required (see 1.2).
- c. Issue of DODISS to be cited in the solicitation, and if required, the specific issue of individual documents referenced (see 2.1.1 and 2.2).
- d. When a first article is required (see 3.2, 4.3 and 6.4).
- e. Levels of preservation and packing (see 5.1 and 5.2).
- f. Type and class of unit load required (see 5.2.1).
- g. When weather-resistant grade fiberboard shipping containers are required for level B packing (see 5.2.2.1).
- h. When palletization is required (see 5.3).
- i. Acceptance criteria required (see 6.6).

6.3 First article. When a first article is required, it shall be inspected and approved under the appropriate provisions of FAR 52.209. The first article should be a preproduction sample. The contracting officer should specify the appropriate type of first article and the number of units to be furnished. The contracting officer should also include specific instructions in acquisition documents regarding arrangements for selection, inspection, and approval of the first article.

6.4 Samples. For access to samples, address the contracting activity issuing the invitation for bids.

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6.5 Color of label. The following cable numbers of the Standard Color Card of America are furnished for information and guidance as to the intensity of the shade of medium green desired for the label specified in 3.5:

Cable No. 70034
 Cable No. 70130
 Cable No. 70131

6.6 Acceptance criteria. The acceptance criteria recommended below is furnished only for guidance to the procuring activity. The acceptance criteria as specified in the contract or purchase order shall be binding. Unless otherwise specified, the following acceptance criteria are in accordance with MIL-STD-105.

6.6.1 For in-process dimensional inspection. An acceptable quality level (AQL), expressed in terms of defects per hundred units, of 4.0 for major defects and 15 for total (major and minor combined) defects is recommended.

6.6.2 For end item visual examination. An AQL, expressed in terms of defects per hundred units, of 2.5 for major defects and 10 for total (major and minor combined) defects is recommended.

6.6.3 For packaging examination. An AQL, expressed in terms of defects per hundred units, of 2.5 is recommended.

6.6.4 For palletization examination. An AQL, expressed in terms of defects per hundred units, of 6.5 is recommended.

6.7 International standardization agreements. Certain provisions of this document are the subject of international standardization agreement as cited in NATO, STANAG No. 2311. When amendment, revision, or cancellation of this document is proposed which will affect or violate the international agreement concerned, the preparing activity will take appropriate reconciliation action through international standardization channels including departmental standardization offices, if required.

6.8 Subject term (key word) listing.

Ammunition case carrier
 Canteen carrier
 Equipment carrier
 First aid carrier

6.9 Changes from previous issue. Marginal notations are not used in this revision to identify changes with respect to the previous issue due to the extensiveness of the changes.

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Custodians:

Army - GL
Navy - NU
Air Force - 99

Preparing activity:

Army - GL
(Project 8465-0014)

Review activities:

Army - MD
Navy - MC
Air Force - 82
DLA - CT

User activities:

Navy - YD
Air Force - 45

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NOTE: This form may not be used to request copies of documents, nor to request waivers, deviations, or clarification of specification requirements on current contracts. Comments submitted on this form do not constitute or imply authorization to waive any portion of the referenced document(s) or to amend contractual requirements.

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