

INCH-POUND

MIL-B-543G

11 April 1990

SUPERSEDING

MIL-B-543F

23 March 1971

MILITARY SPECIFICATION

BUCKLES, TONGUELESS AND WEB STRAP

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

1. SCOPE

1.1 Scope. This specification covers metal buckles used on tentage and equipage items.

1.2 Classification. Buckles shall be of the following types, styles, classes, and sizes, as specified (see 6.2):

Type I - Buckle, tongueless, 1-Bar

Style 2 - (see Drawing 4-1-54)

Classes - 1 (brass), 3 (steel), 4 (aluminum)

Sizes - 5/8 inch, 3/4 inch, 1 inch, 1-1/4 inch, 1-1/2 inch

Type II - Buckle, tongueless, 2-Bar

Style 1 - (see Drawing 4-1-54)

Classes - 1 (brass), 3 (steel), 4 (aluminum)

Size - 1 inch

Style 2 - (see Drawing 4-1-54)

Class - 1 (brass)

Size - 3/4 inch

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 Standardization Document Improvement Proposal (DD Form 1426) appearing at the end of this document or by letter.

AMSC N/A

FSC 5340

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A. Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

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- Style 3 - (see Drawing 4-1-54)
 - Classes - 1 (brass), 3 (steel), 4 (aluminum)
 - Size - 5/8 inch
- Style 4 - (see Drawing 4-1-54)
 - Classes - 1 (brass), 3 (steel), 4 (aluminum)
 - Sizes - 1/2 inch, 5/8 inch, 3/4 inch, 1 inch, 1-1/2 inch, 2 inch
- Style 5 - (see Drawing 4-1-54)
 - Classes - 1 (brass), 3 (steel), 4 (aluminum)
 - Size - 5/8 inch
- Type III - Buckle, double bar, with slide
 - Style 1 - (see Drawing 4-1-171)
 - Classes - 1 (brass), 5 (malleable iron)
 - Size - 1-1/2 inch
 - Style 2 - (see Drawing 4-1-171)
 - Classes - 1 (brass), 5 (malleable iron)
 - Size - 3/4 inch
 - Style 3 - (see Drawing 4-1-171)
 - Classes - 1 (brass), 3 (steel), 4 (aluminum)
 - Sizes - 5/8 inch, 3/4 inch, 1 inch, 1-1/4 inch, 1-1/2 inch
- Type IV - Buckle, single bar, with lip, cotton webbing
 - Classes - 1 (brass), 3 (steel), 4 (aluminum)
 - Sizes - 5/8 inch, 1 inch
- Type V - Buckle, quick release, non-slip, nylon webbing
 - Classes - 3 (steel), 4 (aluminum)
 - Sizes - 3/4 inch, 1 inch

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).

SPECIFICATIONS

FEDERAL

- QQ-A-250/1 - Aluminum 1100, Plate and Sheet
- QQ-A-250/11 - Aluminum Alloy 6061, Plate and Sheet
- QQ-B-613 - Brass, Lead and Non-Lead: Flat Products
(Plate, Bar, Sheet and Strip)

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- QQ-C-390 - Copper Alloy Castings (Including Cast Bar)
- TT-E-529 - Enamel, Alkyd, Semigloss, Low VOC Content
- TT-P-1757 - Primer Coating, Zinc Chromate, Low-Moisture-Sensitivity
- PPP-B-566 - Boxes, Folding, Paperboard
- PPP-B-601 - Boxes, Wood, Cleated-Plywood
- PPP-B-636 - Boxes, Shipping, Fiberboard
- PPP-B-665 - Boxes: Paperboard, Metal Edged and Components
- PPP-B-676 - Boxes Setup

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- MIL-F-495 - Finish, Chemical, Black, For Copper Alloys
- MIL-C-5541 - Chemical Conversion Coatings on Aluminum and Aluminum Alloys
- MIL-H-6088 - Heat Treatment of Aluminum Alloys

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

(Unless otherwise indicated, copies of federal and military specifications standards, and handbooks are available from the Standardization Documents Order Desk, Bldg. 4D, 700 Robbins Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094.)

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

- 2-4-71 - Buckles, Quick Release, Non-slip, Nylon Webbing, Type V.
- 4-1-54 - Buckles, Tongueless and Web Strap; Buckles - 1 Bar, Type I - 2 Bar, Type II.
- 4-1-171 - Buckles, Tongueless and Web Strap; Buckles, Double Bar, With Slide, Type III.
- 4-1-202 - Buckles, Tongueless and Web Strap; Buckle

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

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2.2 Non-Government publications. The following documents form 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).

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR TESTING AND MATERIALS (ASTM)

- A 47 - Ferritic Malleable Iron Castings
- A 109 - Steel, Strip, Carbon, Cold-Rolled
- B 183 - Preparation of Low-Carbon Steel or Electroplating, Practice for
- B 322 - Cleaning Metals Prior to Electroplating, Practice for
- B 633 - Electrodeposited Coatings of Zinc on Iron and Steel
- D 1005 - Measurement of Dry-Film Thickness of Organic Coatings Using Micrometers
- 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.)

(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 Material. The material shall be as specified herein. However, when a definite material is not specified, a material shall be used which will enable the buckles to meet the performance requirements of this specification. It is encouraged that recycled material be used when practical as long as it meets the requirements of this specification.

3.2.1 Copper base alloys.

3.2.1.1 Brass Sheet or Strip. Sheet or strip for class 1 buckles shall conform to copper alloy numbers 260 or 268, quarterhard of QQ-B-613.

3.2.1.2 Castings. Brass castings for class 1 buckles shall conform to alloy number C85400 of QQ-C-390.

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3.2.2 Steel strip, cold rolled. Cold-rolled steel strip for class 3 buckles shall conform to ASTM A 109.

3.2.3 Aluminum.

3.2.3.1 Alloy 1100. Aluminum alloy for class 4 of types I, II, and III buckles shall conform to 1100, tempers H12 or H24 (UNS A91100) of QQ-A-250/1.

3.2.3.2 Alloy 6061. Aluminum alloy for class 4 of types I, II, and III buckles shall conform to 6061, temper O (UNS A96061) of QQ-A-250/11.

3.2.4 Malleable iron. Malleable iron for class 5 buckles shall conform to ASTM A 47.

3.3 Construction and dimensions. The construction and dimensions of the buckles shall conform to this specification and Drawings 2-4-71, 4-1-54, 4-1-171, and 4-1-202, as applicable.

3.3.1 Type IV and V aluminum buckles. After forming, the type IV and V aluminum buckles shall be heat treated to temper T-6 conforming to MIL-H-6088.

3.4 Finish. Prior to the application of a finish, all burrs and sharp edges shall be removed.

3.4.1 Class 1 brass buckles. Class 1 brass buckles shall be given a black chemical finish in accordance with MIL-F-495.

3.4.2 Class 3 steel and class 5 malleable iron buckles. Class 3, steel and class 5 malleable iron buckles shall be given a phosphate zinc plate treatment conforming to type IV, with a minimum thickness of 13 micrometers, of ASTM B 633, followed by bake enameling. The enamel shall conform to type II of TT-E-529. The color shall be black. The coating shall level out to a uniform dry thickness without peeling, blistering, flaking, streaking, or areas of no film.

3.4.2.1 Class 3 steel and class 5 malleable iron buckles alternate finish. As an alternate to phosphate zinc plate treatment specified in 3.4.2, class 3 steel and class 5 malleable iron buckles may be base plated using an electrodeposited brass coating as follows:

- a. The base metal shall be cleaned and prepared in accordance with ASTM B 183, ASTM B 242 or ASTM B 322 as applicable.
- b. The buckle shall then be brass plated to a minimum thickness of 0.0004 inches by electrodeposition of brass alloy number 260 of QQ-B-613.
- c. The buckle shall then be bake enameled as specified in 3.4.2.

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3.4.3 Class 4 aluminum buckles. Class 4, aluminum buckles shall be prepared for painting as follows:

- a. All surfaces shall be prepared for painting in accordance with class 1A requirements of MIL-C-5541.
- b. The treated surfaces shall be coated with primer conforming to composition G or L, as applicable, color Y of TT-P-1757.
- c. The primed surface shall be coated with black enamel conforming to type type II of TT-E-529. The coating shall level out to uniform dry thickness without peeling, blistering, flaking, streaking, or areas of no film.

3.4.4 Epoxy powder coating. As an alternate to the finishes specified in 3.4.1 through 3.4.3 the buckles may be prepared and coated as follows:

- a. The buckles shall be prepared for coating by mechanical means. The surfaces shall be thoroughly and uniformly textured by sand blasting with 80-grit aluminum oxide. Prepared surfaces shall be kept clean during subsequent handling. Handling shall be by clean-gloved hands or by clean implements. The surfaces shall be retained in a clean environment. The surface shall be epoxy coated not more than 8 hours after sand blasting.
- b. The finish coating shall be black electrodeposited powder coating conforming to H. B. Fuller Company, Kativo Powder No. REP-43286-20 or equal (see 6.5).
- c. The electrodeposited epoxy powder coating shall be baked in accordance with commercial practice.
- d. The thickness of the baked coating shall be 0.003 ± 0.001 inch when tested as specified in 4.4.4.1.
- e. The final coating shall be smooth and uniform in appearance, free from wrinkles and streaks.

3.5 Marking for identification. Buckles shall be marked with the manufacturer's name or tradename, or trademark of code of such characters as to be identifiable with the manufacturer. The marking shall be permanently affixed by stamping or etching on the back of the buckle. The identification marks shall be incorporated in such a manner that the surface opposite those markings shall show no signs of penetration or unevenness or that distortion is not caused on any part of the buckle.

3.6 Workmanship. The end item shall conform to the quality of product established by this specification and the occurrence of defects shall not exceed the applicable acceptable quality levels (AQL).

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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 otherwise 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 the prescribed requirements.

4.1.1 Responsibility for compliance. All items shall meet 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.

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.

4.2 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 4.4.3 and 4.4.4.

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.

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4.4.2 In-process inspection. Examination shall be made of the following requirements, operations, or assemblies to establish conformance to specified requirements. Whenever nonconformance is noted, correction shall be made to the items affected, the lot in progress, and the operation. Parts which cannot be corrected shall be removed from production.

<u>Requirement (when applicable)</u>	<u>Requirement paragraph</u>
Heat treatment	3.3.1
Phosphate zinc plating	3.4.2
Electrodeposited brass coating	3.4.2.1
Chemical treatment	3.4.3
Priming	3.4.3
Epoxy powder coating	3.4.4

4.4.3 End item visual examination. The end items shall be examined for the defects listed in table I. The lot size shall be expressed in units of completely finished buckles of one type, style, class, and size. The sample unit shall be one and finished buckle. The inspection level shall be II and the acceptable quality level (AQL), expressed in terms of defects per hundred units, shall be 4.0 for major defects and 10.0 for total (major and minor combined) defects.

TABLE I. End item visual defects

<u>Examine</u>	<u>Defect</u>	<u>Classification</u>	
		<u>Major</u>	<u>Minor</u>
Finish, black enamel (classes 3, 4, and 5)	Color not as specified.	101	
	Area of no film.		201
	Deep cuts, scratches or abrasion exposing base metal.	102	
	Discoloration or slight scratches.		202
	Finish not uniform or adherent (e.g. blistered, peeling, drops, streaks or flaking).		203
Finish, black chemical (class 1)	Color not as specified, or finish not clean or uniform.		204
	Dirt, smudge, oil, grease, or other foreign matter on surfaces.		205
	Deep cuts or scratches.	103	
	Discoloration or slight scratches.		206
	Area of no finish, or finish discolored.		207
	Any evidence of corrosion under finish	104	
Construction and workmanship (all classes, as applicable)	Design or type not as specified.		208
	Unsound casting; e.g., porous, pits, warped, cracked, fractured, sink marks, or contains blow holes.	105	

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TABLE I. End item visual defects cont'd

Examine	Defect	Classification	
		Major	Minor
Construction and workmanship (all classes, as applicable) - cont'd	Stampings distorted, bent or malformed.	106	
	Mutilation such as metal mark, dig, or gouges noticeable.		209
	Digs, gouges, burrs, slivers, sharp edges, or tool marks	107	
	Body, tongue, clamp, or slide bent or malformed.	108	
	Surface spotted or open-grained, e.g., appearing as pitted, porous, or crystalline	109	
Assembly	Any component missing or not assembled.	110	
	Tongue, clamp, or slide will not function, or requires excessive force to operate.	111	
	Tongue, clamp or slide are poorly fitted to buckle body.		210
Identification marking	Missing, incomplete, illegible, or incorrect.		211
	Not stamped or etched on back of buckle as specified.		212
	Indication of penetration, unevenness or distortion; marking on wrong side of buckle.		213

4.4.4 End item dimensional examination. The end items shall be examined for conformance to the dimensions specified on the drawings. Only those dimensions that can be evaluated without damaging or disassembling the end items shall be examined. Any dimension not within the specified tolerance shall be classified as a defect. The lot size shall be expressed in units of buckles. The sample unit shall be one buckle. The inspection level shall be S-2 and the AQL, expressed in terms of defects per hundred units, shall be 4.0.

4.4.4.1 Epoxy coating thickness examination (when applicable). The end item shall be examined for thickness of the epoxy coating in accordance with ASTM D 1005. Three observations shall be made per sample unit. Any epoxy coating thickness less than that specified in 3.4.4 shall be classified as a defect. The lot size shall be expressed in units of buckles. The sample unit shall be one buckle. The inspection level shall be S-2 and the AQL, expressed in terms of defects per hundred units, shall be 4.0.

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4.4.5 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 and the AQL, expressed in terms of defects per hundred units, shall be 2.5.

<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
Contents	Number per container is more or less than required

4.4.6 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 and the AQL, expressed in terms of defects per hundred units, shall be 6.5.

<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).

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5.1.1 Level A preservation. Buckles of one type, style, class, and size only, shall be packed in quantities as specified in table II in a snug-fitting fiberboard box conforming to style RSC, type CF or SF, class domestic, grade 200 of PPP-B-636. Each box shall be agitated during filling to assure a compact and well-fitted box. Each box shall be closed in accordance with the appendix of the box specification. When specified (see 6.2), alternative boxes complying with PPP-B-566, PPP-B-665, PPP-B-676, or PPP-B-636 may be used. The type of box may be selected by the contractor except that weight and dimensional limitations shall not be exceeded.

TABLE II. Quantity of buckles per box and shipping container

Buckles	Quantity per box	Quantity per shipping container
Type I		
Style 2 - class 1 or 3		
Size 5/8 inch	1,600	9,600
Size 3/4 or 1 inch	1,500	9,000
Size 1-1/4 inch	1,000	6,000
Size 1-1/2 inch	500	3,000
Style 2 - class 4		
Size 5/8 inch	4,000	24,000
Size 3/4 or 1 inch	3,500	21,000
Size 1-1/4 inch	2,300	13,800
Size 1-1/2 inch	1,400	8,400
Type II		
Style 1 - class 1 or 3		
Size 1 inch	1,100	6,000
Style 1 - class 4		
Size 1 inch	2,400	14,400
Style 2 - class 1		
Size 3/4 inch	1,800	10,800
Style 3 - class 1 or 3		
Size 5/8 inch	3,000	18,000
Style 3 - class 4		
Size 5/8 inch	7,500	45,000

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TABLE II. Quantity of buckles per box and shipping container cont'd

Buckles	Quantity per box	Quantity per shipping container
Style 4 - class 1 or 3		
Size 1/2 inch	4,000	24,000
Size 5/8 inch	2,800	16,800
Size 3/4 inch	2,000	12,000
Size 1 inch	900	5,400
Size 1-1/2 or 2 inch	500	3,000
Style 4 - class 4		
Size 1/2 inch	10,250	61,500
Size 5/8 inch	7,600	45,600
Size 3/4 inch	5,000	30,000
Size 1 inch	2,500	15,000
Size 1-1/2 inch	1,400	8,400
Size 2 inch	1,000	6,000
Style 5 - class 1 or 3		
Size 5/8 inch	1,800	10,800
Style 5 - class 4		
Size 5/8 inch	4,000	24,000
Type III		
Style 1 - class 1		
Size 1-1/2 inch	150	900
Style 1 - class 5		
Size 1-1/2 inch	200	1,200
Style 2 - class 1		
Size 3/4 inch	350	2,100
Style 2 - class 5		
Size 3/4 inch	500	3,000
Style 3 - class 1 or 3		
Size 5/8 inch	500	3,000
Size 3/4 inch	400	2,400
Size 1 inch	300	1,800
Size 1-1/4 or 1-1/2 inch	200	1,200

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TABLE II. Quantity of buckles per box and shipping container cont'd

Buckles	Quantity per box	Quantity per shipping container
Style 3 - class 4		
Size 5/8 inch	1,700	10,200
Size 3/4 inch	1,200	7,200
Size 1 inch	1,000	6,000
Size 1-1/4 or 1-1/2 inch	600	3,600
Type IV		
All classes		
Size 5/8 and 1 inch	450	2,700
Type V		
All classes		
Size 3/4 inch	1,600	9,600
Size 1 inch	800	4,800

5.1.2 Commercial preservation. Buckles 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. Buckles of one type, style, class, and size only, preserved as specified in 5.1, shall be packed in a shipping container in quantities specified in table II. The shipping container shall be a cleated plywood box conforming to overseas type, style A or I, grade B, type 2 load of PPP-B-601. Each box shall be closed and reinforced in accordance with the appendix of PPP-B-601.

5.2.2 Level B packing. Buckles of one type, style, class, and size only, preserved as specified in 5.1, shall be packed in quantities specified in table II in snug-fitting fiberboard shipping containers conforming to style FTC, type CF, class domestic, variety DW, grade 350 of PPP-B-636. 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 4.4.5.

5.2.2.1 Weather-resistant fiberboard containers. When specified (see 6.2), shipping containers packed with buckles shall be a grade V3c, V3s, or V4s fiberboard boxes fabricated in accordance with PPP-B-636 and closed in accordance with method III as specified in appendix of PPP-B-636, except that the inspection shall be in accordance with 4.4.5.

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

5.3 Palletization. When specified (see 6.2), buckles packed as specified in 5.2 shall be palletized on a 4-way entry pallet in accordance with load type I or Ia of MIL-STD-147. Pallet type shall be type I (4-way entry), type IV, or type V in accordance with MIL-STD-147. 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 patterns shall be in accordance with the appendix of MIL-STD-147.

5.4 Marking. In addition to any special marking required by the contract or purchase order, unit packs, 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 buckles are for use on items of equipment having strap-buckle-type fasteners.

6.2 Acquisition requirements. Acquisition documents must specify the following:

- a. Title, number, and date of this specification.
- b. Type, style, class, and size of buckle 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 3.1, 4.3, and 6.3).
- e. Levels of preservation and packing (see 5.1 and 5.2).
- f. When weather-resistant grade fiberboard shipping containers are required for level B packing (see 5.2.2.1).
- g. When palletization is required (see 5.3).

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 Sample. For access to samples of buckles, address the contracting activity issuing the invitation for bids or request for proposal.

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6.5 Epoxy powder coating source. Kativo Powder No. REP-43286-20 from the H.B. Fuller Company, 3532 Lexington Avenue North, St. Paul, MN 55126, has been used satisfactorily as an alternate coating.

6.6 Subject term (key word) listing.

Equipage
Fasteners
Individual equipment
Strap
Tentage

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

Custodians:

Army - GL
Air Force - 99

Preparing activity:

Army - GL
(Project 5340-1778)

Review activities:

Army - AR, MD, MI
Air Force - 82
DLA - IS

User activities:

Army - ME
Navy - SA, MC, YD

