

MIL-M-7866C  
11 July 1979  
SUPERSEDING  
MIL-M-7866B  
15 July 1965

## MILITARY SPECIFICATION

### MOLYBDENUM DISULFIDE, TECHNICAL, LUBRICATION GRADE

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

#### 1. SCOPE

\* 1.1 Scope. This specification covers the requirements for procurement of one grade of powdered molybdenum disulfide, to be used in lubricants and greases for surfaces where boundary conditions exist.

#### 2. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

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

#### SPECIFICATIONS

##### Federal

QQ-C-576 Copper Flat Products With Slit, Slit And Edge-Rolled, Sheared, Sawed Or Machined Edges (Plate, Bar, Sheet, And Strip)

TT-T-291 Thinner, Paint, Volatile Spirits (Petroleum-Spirits)

Beneficial comments (recommendations, additions, deletions) and any pertinent data which may be of use in improving this document should be addressed to: Engineering Specifications and Standards Department (Code 9321), Naval Air Engineering Center, Lakehurst, New Jersey 08733 by using the self-addressed Standardization Document Improvement Proposal (DD Form 1426) appearing at the end of this document or by letter.

FSC 6810

## MIL-M-7866C

Military

- MIL-R-3043      Resin Coating, Unpigmented, For Engine Components  
And Metal Parts
- MIL-S-7952      Steel, Sheet And Strip, Uncoated, CARBON (1020  
And 1025) (Aircraft Quality)(Asg)

## STANDARDS

Federal

- FED-STD-313      Material Safety Data Sheets, Preparation And  
Submission Of
- FED-STD-791      Lubricants, Liquid Fuels And Related Products;  
Methods Of Testing

Military

- MIL-STD-105      Sampling Procedures For Inspection By Attributes
- MIL-STD-290      Packaging, Packing And Marking Of Petroleum And  
Related Products

(Copies of 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.)

## 3. REQUIREMENTS

\* 3.1      First article inspection. The molybdenum disulfide furnished under this specification shall be a product which has been inspected and has passed the first article inspection specified herein. (See 4.2.1).

3.2      Materials. The molybdenum disulfide shall be a powder of a purity and grade suitable for general lubricating use.

\* 3.3      Chemical and physical characteristics. The chemical and physical characteristics of the molybdenum disulfide shall be as specified in Table I.

MIL-M-7866C

TABLE I

Chemical and physical Characteristics

Characteristic	Limit	Applicable Paragraph
Moisture (loss of weight), percent, max.	0.7	4.4.2
Water solubles, percent, max.	0.5	4.4.3
Oil content (acetone extractable), percent, max.	0.5	4.4.4
Total insolubles, percent, max.	1.0	4.4.5
Molybdenum disulfide, percent, min.	98.0	4.4.5
Corrosion resistance <u>1/</u>	Pass	4.4.6
Steel and copper corrosion <u>2/</u>	Pass	4.4.7
Fineness, microns (average particle size)	4-10	4.4.8

1/ The molybdenum disulfide, when in the form of a bonded solid film, shall show or cause no discoloration, pitting, formation of white deposits, or other evidence of corrosion.

2/ The molybdenum disulfide shall cause no pitting, etching, or heavy staining on polished copper or sandblasted steel surfaces. A slight stain or discoloration shall not be cause for rejection.

3.4 Toxicity. The molybdenum disulfide shall have no adverse effect on the health of personnel when used for its intended purpose. The powder shall contain no components which produce noxious vapors in such concentrations as to be an annoyance to personnel during formulation or use under conditions of adequate ventilation while exercising caution to avoid prolonged contact with the skin. The properties of the powder shall be such that its use shall not require personnel protective equipment, special control procedures or special handling equipment. Questions pertaining to the toxic effects shall be referred by the procuring activity to the appropriate departmental-medical service who will act as an advisor to the procuring activity. A Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) shall be prepared in accordance with FED-STD-313 and be submitted either prior to or with the First Article Samples (3.1).

3.5 Workmanship. The molybdenum disulfide when subjected to visual examination shall appear homogeneous.

## MIL-M-7866C

## 4. QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS

4.1 Responsibility for inspection. Unless otherwise specified in contract or purchase order, the supplier is responsible for the performance of all inspection requirements as specified herein. Except as otherwise 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 examinations and tests set forth in the specification where such are deemed necessary to assure supplies and services conform to prescribed requirements.

4.2 Classification of inspection. The inspection and testing of the molybdenum disulfide shall be classified as follows:

(a) First article inspection (4.2.1)

(b) Quality conformance inspection (4.2.2)

\* 4.2.1 First article inspection. The first article inspection shall consist of testing the First article sample (4.3.1) for conformance with the corrosion resistance requirement (3.3). If the results of the first article inspection are in accordance with the requirements of this specification, the consistency of production quality will thereby be verified. Failure of the molybdenum disulfide to pass a first article inspection shall require that the acceptance of a further shipment of molybdenum disulfide be withheld until the contractor has corrected the conditions which led to the failure. Material Safety Data Sheets shall be prepared in accordance with FED-STD-313 and submitted to the cognizant laboratory (4.3.1).

4.2.2 Quality conformance (lot-by-lot) inspection. The quality conformance inspection shall include examining and testing the quality conformance samples (4.3.2.2) for conformance to all the Section 3 requirements, except corrosion resistance (3.3), and an examination of the samples of filled containers (4.3.2.3) for conformance to the Section 5 requirements.

4.3 Sampling

4.3.1 First article sample. First article sample shall consist of 5 pounds of molybdenum disulfide selected at random from the first lot of molybdenum disulfide processed under a contract or order. First processed inspection samples shall be forwarded to the Naval Air Development Center, Code 60612, Warminster, PA 18974. The samples shall be plainly identified by securely attached durable tags or labels marked with the following information:

## MIL-M-7866C

Sample for first article inspection  
 MOLYBDENUM DISULFIDE, TECHNICAL, LUBRICATION GRADE  
 Specification MIL-M-7866C  
 Name of manufacturer  
 Product code number  
 Date of manufacture  
 Contract or order number  
 Batch number

4.3.2 Quality conformance samples. The quality conformance sample shall consist of a sample for tests (4.3.2.2) and a sample for examination of filled containers (4.3.2.3). Samples shall be labeled completely with information identifying the purpose of the sample, name of product, specification number, lot and batch number, date of sampling, and contract number. Individual samples shall not be mixed, shall be placed in separate air-tight and water-tight containers, which shall be nearly filled, covered and sealed to prevent atmospheric effects.

4.3.2.1 Inspection lot. A lot shall consist of the material produced by one manufacturer under essentially the same manufacturing conditions. Each batch shall constitute a lot.

4.3.2.2 Sample for tests. The sample for tests shall consist of one can of molybdenum disulfide taken at random from each lot of molybdenum disulfide to be offered or processed for delivery under a contract or order. The lot shall be unacceptable if a sample fails to meet any one of the test requirements specified.

4.3.2.3 Sample for examination of filled containers. A random sample of filled containers and a sample of shipping containers fully prepared for delivery shall be selected from each lot of molybdenum disulfide in accordance with MIL-STD-105 at inspection level I and acceptable quality level (AQL)=2.5 percent defective.

#### 4.4. Inspection methods

4.4.1 Unless otherwise specified, the molybdenum disulfide shall be tested as taken from the container without treatment or preconditioning of any kind.

#### 4.4.2 Moisture

4.4.2.1 Samples. The Moisture test shall be made on the first portion withdrawn from the sample container.

4.4.2.2 Method. A 10 gm sample shall be weighed into a previously dried and weighed flat form weighing bottle (30 by 70 mm). The bottle shall be transferred to an oven set at  $107 \pm 3^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $225 \pm 4^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) to be dried for

## MIL-M-7866C

at least 16 hours. The bottle shall be removed to a desiccator to cool for one half hour, then reweighed. This shall be repeated until constant weight is attained.

$$\text{Percent moisture} = \frac{\text{loss in weight}}{\text{sample weight}} \times 100$$

4.4.3 Water solubles. A 10 gm sample of the dried molybdenum disulfide shall be weighed into a 80 X 33 mm single thickness thimble. The thimble shall be placed in the extraction tube of a Size B Soxhlet extraction apparatus. One hundred and fifty ml of water shall be added to a previously dried and weighed 250 ml flat bottom extraction flask, and the complete extraction apparatus assembled on an electric hotplate. A blank determination shall be run simultaneously. The extraction of the powder and the blank shall be placed on a steam bath and evaporated to dryness. The flasks containing the residues shall be removed to an oven maintained at  $107 \pm 3^\circ\text{C}$  ( $225 \pm 5^\circ\text{F}$ ) for 1 hour, then cooled in a desiccator and weighed.

$$\text{Percent water soluble matter} = \frac{A-B}{W} \times 100$$

Where A = Increase in weight of sample flask

B = Increase in weight of blank flask

W = Weight of dried sample

\* 4.4.4 Oil content. The thimble containing the water insolubles (4.4.3.2) shall be removed to an oven maintained at  $107 \pm 3^\circ\text{C}$  ( $225 \pm 5^\circ\text{F}$ ) and allowed to dry overnight. A 6 gm moisture free sample shall be weighed into a tared fritted glass crucible (30 ml capacity, fine porosity). Prior to use the crucible shall be cleaned with hot chromic acid sulfuric acid solution, washed with water, rinsed with acetone, and dried in an oven maintained at  $107 \pm 3^\circ\text{C}$  ( $225 \pm 5^\circ\text{F}$ ) for 1 hour. The sample shall be leached with a total of 100 ml of acetone, using 10 ml portions to cover the powder for several minutes before drawing the acetone through the filter with suction. The crucible and residue shall be dried in an oven at  $107 \pm 3^\circ\text{C}$  ( $225 \pm 5^\circ\text{F}$ ) for 1 hour, then removed to a desiccator for 0.5 to 1 hour before reweighing. The drying shall be repeated to constant weight.

$$\text{Percent oil content} = \frac{A}{W} \times 100$$

Where: A = loss in weight of crucible (in grams)

W = weight of moisture free sample (in grams)

## MIL-M-7866C

4.4.5 Insolubles and molybdenum disulfide. The insolubles and molybdenum disulfide content shall be determined in accordance with Method 3710 of FED-STD-791.

4.4.6 Corrosion resistance of molybdenum disulfide

4.4.6.1 Solid film formulation. The powder is incorporated into a solid film formulation by thoroughly mixing 1 part by weight of molybdenum disulfide with two parts phenolic resin conforming to MIL-R-3043 with the further addition of a mixture consisting of 50 percent c.p. methylethyl ketone, 25 percent c.p. xylene and 25 percent c.p. N Butyl Alcohol until spraying consistency is reached.

4.4.6.2 The corrosion resistance of the molybdenum disulfide shall be determined in accordance with Method 3814 of MIL-STD-791. A spray technique with continuous agitation shall be used in film deposition. A temperature of 149°C (300°F) for 60 minutes is required for curing.

4.4.7 Steel and copper corrosion

4.4.7.1 Panels. The steel panels shall be sandblasted SAE 1020 cold rolled steel, 2 by 4 by 1/8 inch, conforming to MIL-S-7952. The copper panels shall be 2 by 4 by 1/8 inch conforming to QQ-C-576 and shall be polished to a roughness of 3 microinches rms.

4.4.7.2 Reagent. The mineral spirits shall conform to TT-T-291. After filtering this solvent through absorbent cotton, the non-volatile content shall be checked by evaporating a 100 ml volume to dryness in white dish over a steam bath. No residue shall remain.

4.4.7.3 Method. A slurry shall be prepared by mixing 10 grams of molybdenum disulfide with 5 ml of mineral spirits. The slurry shall be brushed onto the copper and steel panels, suspended vertically until drainage ceases, and then transferred to an oven at 102±2°C (216±4°F) for 24 hours. The panels shall be removed and immersed in boiling mineral spirits to eliminate the film of molybdenum disulfide. For complete removal of the powder, a small wad of absorbent cotton soaked with the solvent shall be lightly rubbed over the panel surface. The panels shall be cooled and dried, then examined microscopically at 15X magnification for evidence of pitting, etching, brown or black stains. Slight stains shall be considered unobjectionable. Blank panels of copper and steel shall be carried through simultaneously for comparison.

4.4.8 Fineness

4.4.8.1 Test apparatus. The average particle size of the molybdenum disulfide shall be determined using a Fisher Sub-Sieve Sizer

## MIL-M-7866C

or equivalent. This instrument is composed of a regulating device, a precision bore sample tube, a standardized double range air flowmeter, a calculator chart and a calibrator.

#### 4.4.8.2 Test procedure

4.4.8.2.1 Instrument standardization. The calculator shall be set to indicate a porosity of 0.75. The pointer shall be placed exactly on the base line and the level of the liquid meniscus shall be adjusted in the manometer tube to coincide with the upper edge of the curved portion of the metal cross bar. The calibrated tube shall be mounted and the reading taken. If the readings do not agree with those marked on the tube within  $\pm 0.05$  microns the instrument can be standardized by adjusting the fine wires in the glass capillary tubes which are connected to the system. The meniscus can be moved by moving these fine wires in or out of the capillary tubes.

4.4.8.2.2 Preparation of sample. The calibrated tube shall be removed. A paper disk shall be fitted into the sample tube a porous plug with the perforated surface of the plug next to the paper. A  $4.80 \pm 0.01$  gram sample shall be transferred to the sample tube through a funnel. A second paper disc shall be placed on top of the tube and a second porous plug forced into the sample tube. The calculator chart shall be set for the porosity desired. The sample shall be packed until the pointer coincides with the sample height curve. When the meniscus has reached a maximum, the cross bars shall be placed on the reading taken from the pointer attached to the cross bars.

4.4.9 Examination of filled containers. Each filled container selected in accordance with 4.3.2 shall be examined for defects of the container and closure, for evidence of leakage and unsatisfactory markings. If the number of defective containers in any sample exceeds the acceptance number of the appropriate sampling plan of MIL-STD-105, failure of the lot shall be indicated.

### 5. PACKAGING

\* 5.1 Packaging, Packaging and marking. Packaging, packing, and marking shall be in accordance with MIL-STD-290 and 5.1.1.

5.1.1 Special marking. In addition to the marking specified above, unit containers shall include the following:

REPLACE CLOSURE TIGHTLY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER USE



## MIL-M-7866C

## 6. NOTES

6.1 Intended use. The molybdenum disulfide is intended to function as a lubricant contained in grease and solid films by reducing friction and wear under low and high sliding velocities where boundary lubricants exist. Mixing in field is not recommended. This lubricant is effective over a wide range of temperatures.

\* 6.2 Ordering data. Procurement documents should specify the following:

- (a) Title and number of this specification
- (b) Quantity desired
- (c) Size and type of container in which molybdenum disulfide is to be furnished (see 5.1).
- (d) Levels of packaging, packing and marking (See 5.1)
- (e) Special marking (5.1.1)
- (f) Toxicological data requirements (See 3.4 and 4.2.1)

6.3 Revision notation. The outside margins of this specification have been marked with an asterisk (\*) to indicate where changes (deletions, additions, etc.) from the previous issue have been made. This has been done as a convenience only and the Government assumes no liability whatsoever for any inaccuracies in these notations. Bidders and contractors are cautioned to evaluate the requirements of this document based on the entire content as written irrespective of the marginal notations and relationship to last issue.

## Custodians:

Army - AR  
Navy - AS  
Air Force - 68

## Preparing activity:

Navy - AS  
(DoD Project No. 6810-B176)

## Review activities:

Army - EA, MI  
DLA - GS

## User activities:

Army - ME

**STANDARDIZATION DOCUMENT IMPROVEMENT PROPOSAL***(See Instructions – Reverse Side)***1. DOCUMENT NUMBER****2. DOCUMENT TITLE****3a. NAME OF SUBMITTING ORGANIZATION****4. TYPE OF ORGANIZATION (Mark one)**☐ **VENDOR**☐ **USER**☐ **MANUFACTURER**☐ **OTHER (Specify):** \_\_\_\_\_**b. ADDRESS (Street, City, State, ZIP Code)****5. PROBLEM AREAS****a. Paragraph Number and Wording:****b. Recommended Wording:****c. Reason/Rationale for Recommendation:****6. REMARKS****7a. NAME OF SUBMITTER (Last, First, MI) – Optional****b. WORK TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code) – Optional****c. MAILING ADDRESS (Street, City, State, ZIP Code) – Optional****8. DATE OF SUBMISSION (YYMMDD)****(TO DETACH THIS FORM, CUT ALONG THIS LINE.)**