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**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
STANDARD PRACTICE**

**INSTALLATION OF IDENTIFICATION AND
MODIFICATION PLATES
(FOR AIRCRAFT)**



AMSC N/A

FSC 9905

MIL-STD-8651

FOREWORD

1. This standard is approved for use by all Departments and Agencies of the Department of Defense.
2. MIL-STD-8651 has been prepared to reflect current DoD policy and procedures for standardization documents used by DoD and is redesignated as a Department of Defense standard practice.
3. Beneficial comments (recommendations, additions, deletions) and any pertinent data which may be of use in improving this document should be addressed to: Commander, Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division, Code 414100B120-3, Highway 547, Lakehurst, NJ 08733-5100, by using the Standardization Document Improvement Proposal (DD Form 1426) appearing at the end of this document or by letter.

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1. SCOPE

1.1 Scope. This standard establishes the practices for the installation and modification plates on major structural aircraft assemblies.

2. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

(This section is not applicable to this standard.)

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1 Identification plate. An identification plate provides information about a major assembly, subassembly or component.

3.2 Modification plate. A modification plate contains information regarding any modification or change made to a major assembly, subassembly or component.

4. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Application. Identification and modification plates shall be applied to all major structural aircraft assemblies, either installed on the complete aircraft or procured spares. This requirement does not apply to useful load items, engines, propellers, or other equipment items, but does apply to helicopter major drive system components including transmissions, gear boxes, rotor blades, rotor heads and clutches.

4.2 Identification and modification plates. Identification and modification plates used shall be designed and manufactured to provide information (see 5.1). Lettering shall be permanent and legible. Material shall resist deterioration.

4.3 Categories of changes to be recorded. Only those changes in the following categories shall be recorded on the plates:

- a. "Hidden" changes (changes not readily identified by visual inspection).
- b. Changes affecting interchangeability.
- c. Changes required for safety of flight.

5. DETAILED REQUIREMENTS

5.1 Marking details. Marking of plates shall be as specified in table I. It is mandatory that the information recorded be accurate.

5.2 Serial numbers. So that identification of changes may be accomplished to the fullest extent, a code system shall be established for identification of all major aircraft structural assemblies (including spares) by the serial number of the assembly rather than by the aircraft serial number. A typical example is shown in 6.3.

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TABLE I. Marking details.

Designation	Requirement
Aircraft model	Record the military service model designation of the aircraft.
Cage code	Record the manufacturer's code
Part number	Record the part number of the assembly.
Serial number	Record the assembly unit serial number (see 5.2)
Contract number	Applicable to U.S. Air Force only.
Contract inspector	Record the designation of the contractor's inspector
Customer inspector	Record the designation of the customer's inspector.
Modification incorporated	Add the modifications incorporated
Aircraft service changes	Stamp the heading "A.S.C." on the line directly below "Modification Incorporated," and record the "numbers" of the military aircraft service changes incorporated in the assembly prior to delivery

5.2.1 Letter designation. The prime contractor and each subcontractor involved in the manufacture of major structural assemblies for a particular model aircraft shall each have a separate and distinct "letter" designation, e.g., "A" for the prime contractor, "B" for the first subcontractor, and "C" for another subcontractor. The letter designations shall be assigned by the prime contractor. The letter designation of the prime contractor shall always be the letter "A".

5.2.2 Number designation. Each type of major structural assembly shall have a separate and distinct "number" designation. "1" may be assigned for outboard wing panels, "2" for center panels, "3" for ailerons, and "4" for flaps. These designations shall be assigned by the prime contractor.

5.2.3 Consecutive numbering. All structural assemblies of the same type manufactured by each contractor shall be numbered consecutively, starting with number 1, to include the numerically manufactured unit by the prime contractor and the respective subcontractors. The numerical sequence shall continue as long as a given part numbered assembly is manufactured. If the part number of an assembly is changed, the units manufactured under the new part number shall be consecutively numbered starting with number 1. If the part number of an assembly is changed because of a modification, serialization of the new parts shall begin with the number 1. However, if rework of the superseded parts is contemplated, serialization of the new parts shall be consecutive with the superseded part. Alternatively, a letter may be incorporated in the new part serial number, to preclude duplication of serial numbers if superseded parts are worked to the new part configuration. Symmetrically opposite assemblies of a set shall be assigned the same serial number, as these assemblies will be further identified by the part numbers on the identification and modification plates.

5.3 Installation. The plates shall be mounted on the right-hand side of the fuselage or hull and on the inboard end of the right- and left-hand major structural assemblies, so as to be visible after final assembly. On closed assemblies, the plate shall be so located as to be accessible from

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the hand holes or access covers and the exterior surface of access covers shall be stenciled to identify the location of the plate.

5.3.1 Permanently attached plates. Permanently attached plates shall be readily accessible with the assembly installed in place on the aircraft. The plates shall be installed on rigid structural members so that the recording of additional information, by service activities using stamping dies, will not cause any damage or deformation of any kind to the structure to which the plate is attached.

5.3.2 Removable plates. Plates not meeting the installation requirements of 5.3.1, or not readily accessible, shall be removable. Install removable plates with screws, bolts, clamps, or other means so that the plates can be removed for recording additional information by service activities and be reinstalled. Removable plates shall be readily accessible with the assembly installed in place on the aircraft.

6. NOTES

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

6.1 Intended use. Identification and modification plates for major structural assemblies are intended for identification of the assembly and for the determination of changes incorporated in the assembly.

6.2 Subject term (key word) listing.

- Drive system
- Model
- Part number
- Serial number
- Structural assemblies
- Wing panel

6.3 Typical example. A typical example of a code system for a serial number described in 5.2 would be an outer wing panel assembly part number 83204-1 bearing the serial number B1-87, wherein the dash number "1" after the part number signifies a left (or right) assembly and the serial number is formed as follows:

B - The letter designation of the subcontractor who had manufactured the particular outer panel.

1 - The number designation for the all outer wing panels manufactured for the particular model aircraft, regardless of whether the prime contractor or subcontractor manufactured the item(s).

87 - The 87th left-hand outer wing panel manufactured by the subcontractor whose designation is "B".

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CONCLUDING MATERIAL

Custodians:

Army - AV

Navy - AS

Air Force - 99

Preparing activity:

Navy - As

(Project 9905-0335)

Review Activities:

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STANDARDIZATION DOCUMENT IMPROVEMENT PROPOSAL

INSTRUCTIONS

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I RECOMMEND A CHANGE:

1. DOCUMENT NUMBER
MIL-STD-8651

2. DOCUMENT DATE (YYMMDD)
971110

3. DOCUMENT TITLE

INSTALLATION OF IDENTIFICATION AND MODIFICATION PLATES (FOR AIRCRAFT)

4. NATURE OF CHANGE *(Identify paragraph number and include proposed rewrite, if possible. Attach extra sheets as needed.)*

5. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

6. SUBMITTER

a. NAME *(Last, First, Middle Initial)*

b. ORGANIZATION

c. ADDRESS *(Include Zip Code)*

d. TELEPHONE
(Include Area Code)
(1) Commercial:

(2) DSN:
(If Applicable)

7. DATE SUBMITTED
(YYMMDD)

8. PREPARING ACTIVITY

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