

# Supply Of Information for NATO Codification and Defence Inventory Introduction

**DEFCON 117**

Edition 07/21

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1. The purpose of Codification is to catalogue Items of Supply, using the minimum information required to distinguish them from similar items available. The cataloguing information is not normally a full technical specification and definition that could be used for manufacture of alternative items.
  2. In this Condition:
    - a. "Codification" means the application of unique identification and classification information to Items of Supply, using a common supply language (detailed at Annex) which is recorded in sufficient detail to distinguish uniquely Items of Supply from other items, using NATO Stock Numbers (NSN).
    - b. "Codification Purposes" means use to enable maximum effectiveness in national and international logistic support, data management in the area of materiel, supply and inventory introduction and management, throughout the life of an equipment, by the UK MOD and its NATO partners.
    - c. "Codification Authority" means the United Kingdom National Codification Bureau (UKNCB), except as provided in Clause 11.
    - d. "Authority's Agent" means the Government Departments or Contractors authorised by the Codification Authority to undertake NATO codification.
    - e. "Form, Fit and Function," means, in respect of each of its elements:
      - (1) Form: The shape, size, dimensions, and other physically measurable parameters that uniquely characterise an article. For software, form denotes the language and media.
      - (2) Fit: The characteristics of an article to enable it to interface or interconnect with a part of another article, including the dimensional relationship between mating parts and the limits of tolerances.
      - (3) Function: The actions that a product is designed to perform in normal use or operation.
    - f. "Item" means the part or the whole of any Article as defined in DEFCON 501 or any other article to the same design or any modification of it.
    - g. "Item of Supply" means an Item, or where two or more Items are attached or assembled together, the minimum assembly of Items listed in the Design Control Authority's Master Parts List or required to be delivered to the Authority under the Contract. "Item Identification" means the minimum information required to uniquely identify the Item of Supply derived from information supplied in response to the requirements specified in the Annex to this Condition.
    - h. "Technical Data" means the cataloguing information identified in the Annex to this Condition to be supplied to enable the creation of Item Identification.

- i. "Design Control Authority" (DCA) means the individual, company, firm, corporation, designing authority or government department, which controls the design, characteristics and production of an Item by means of its engineering drawings, specifications and inspection requirements.
  - j. "NATO Commercial & Government Entity code" (NCAGE) means the unique code allocated to a supplier by the UKNCB.
3. In the case of an Item of Supply for which the Contractor is the DCA, the Contractor shall:
- a. provide Technical Data to the Codification Authority, or the Authority's Agent specified by the Codification Authority, where:
    - (1) the Item of Supply is not already codified in the NATO Codification System (NCS); or
    - (2) the Contractor has not previously supplied that information either in the recommended spare parts list supplied by the Contractor in the initial provisioning phase or under another contract.
  - b. where the Item of Supply has already been NATO codified, supply the NSN(s) to the Codification Authority, or the Authority's Agent.
  - c. inform the Codification Authority, or its Agent, when and to whom the data was supplied if the information has previously been supplied by the Contractor.
4. In the case of an Item of Supply for which the Contractor is not the DCA, the Contractor shall ensure that the Technical Data is supplied, either by the subcontract DCA or by the Contractor. The Contractor shall, where appropriate, consider including the terms of this Condition, or equivalent text, in any sub-contract(s), to ensure delivery of the cataloguing information.
5. Unless otherwise provided by the Contract, the cost of supplying the information under Clauses 3 and 4 above, and any other information specifically called for under the Contract, shall be deemed to have been included in the Contract Price.
6. The Contractor may from time to time be requested to supply additional information necessary for Codification. To the extent that they have the right to do so, the Contractor shall supply that additional data. The extent of additional information shall be governed by the requirements of the Codification system at that time. Full details of the Codification system can be obtained from the Codification Authority.
- a. At any time during the life of the contract the Contractor shall notify the Codification Authority of all modifications or design changes made to an Item of Supply, which affect the Item Identification, including reference number changes, Form, Fit or Function.
  - b. Fair and reasonable payment, based upon the actual work involved, will be made to the Contractor for the supply of additional information under Clause 6 above and, in respect of modifications and design changes approved by the Authority; the supply of updated information under sub-Clause 6a above.
7. Subject to the restrictions resulting from Clause 9, the Authority shall have the right, free of charge, to use and copy or have used and copied for Codification Purposes information supplied under the provisions of this Condition, use and copying being limited to that necessary for Codification Purposes. The

Authority may convert or have converted any Technical Data provided in whatever format to an alternative format, including digital formats.

8. Subject to the restrictions resulting from Clause 9, the information constituting the Item Identification may be included in the databases of codification data which are produced by the Authority or any international organisation of which the Authority is a member and may be made available to other Governments, contractors, organisations or individuals who are authorised to have access to those databases by the Authority or the organisation(s) of which the Authority is a member.

9. The Contractor shall endeavour to ensure that all information supplied under this Condition can be used for Codification Purposes; however, where any of the information supplied is marked to indicate it is proprietary in nature the Contractor shall indicate the restrictions which apply to its use.

10. The Codification Authority shall not retain or use the Technical Data supplied under this Condition for any purpose other than for Codification.

11. If the DCA is located in a NATO country other than the UK, the equivalent organisation in that NATO country shall be substituted for the UKNCB. All contact between the Contractor and those equivalent organisations will be via the UKNCB.

12. If the DCA is located in a country which is not a member of the NATO Alliance or a NATO sponsored (NCS participating) country, the Codification Authority will be deemed to be the UKNCB, which may nominate an agent to act on its behalf.

13. The Contractor, Subcontractor or supplier may contact the Codification Authority for any information concerning the NCS.

14. The requirements set out in the Annex A to this DEFCON shall apply in relation to Item Identification.

## **ANNEX A TO DEFCON 117**

# **Codification Requirements For Item Identification**

1. Information to be supplied and used for the purposes of Codification is governed by the requirements of the NCS Item Identification Guide (IIG) and the approved item name shall be used for Codification. The exact requirements are item specific and will vary on an item by item basis.
2. Information may be provided in the form of engineering drawings, international / national or commercial standards and specifications, commercial literature such as catalogues, brochures or similar documentation, in hard or soft copy. Alternatively arrangement may be made to allow the data to be retrieved via URL or similar.
3. This Condition covers all Items of Supply, and the following information must be supplied:
  - a. The NCAGE or name, address and contact details of the Design Control Authority (DCA).
  - b. The name of the Item of Supply, as recognised by the DCA.
  - c. Identifying References:
    - (1) the DCA's drawing or part number(s), and National or International Standard or Specification Reference, or both (indicating definitive or non-definitive). The references will be assumed to be fully definitive unless stated otherwise;
    - (2) where the Contractor's own identifying reference differs from the DCA's reference, this shall also be provided;
    - (3) any associated bar code or product identification numbers, assigned by companies compliant with EAN International or the Uniform Code Council (UCC);
    - (4) for medical items, the ATC Code (World Health Organisation (WHO) Anatomical Therapeutic Codes), BNF code (British National Formulary) or the ECRI Universal Medical Device Nomenclature code shall be supplied where relevant.
  - d. The following Volumetric Data. Definitions equate to those in ASD S2000M and the data is to be supplied in the format specified therein:
    - (1) length, width and height / depth of packaged unit (SPU), used with an associated unit of issue code;
    - (2) length, width and height / depth of unpackaged unit (SUU), used with an associated unit of issue code;
    - (3) gross weight of packaged unit (WPU), used with an associated unit of issue code;
    - (4) gross weight of unpackaged unit (WUU), used with an associated unit of issue code.
4. The following additional information shall be supplied where it is necessary for the information to be used to fully distinguish Items of Supply, as determined by the applicable approved item name and NCS Item Identification Guide (IIG).

The DCA is not required to disclose particulars of proprietary processes, manufacturing techniques or proprietary material specifications.

- a. Basic material (the base material from which the item is fabricated) surface treatment (the finish by which the item is plated, dipped and / or coated, including any special cleanliness conditions).
  - b. All key dimensions shall be supplied for common mechanical parts, such as nuts, bolts, screws, washers etc.
  - c. Where items are threaded, include the size, type, length, class and direction of the thread.
  - d. Electrical Characteristics, such as nominal voltage, current or rated power, or both, of the item, rated resistance, capacitance or inductance, and operating frequencies.
  - e. For any pressure system components and equipment details of the pressure ratings.
  - f. Temperature ratings.
  - g. Information on distinguishing features, e.g. colour, shape, style, holes, cut-outs, keyways or slots, etc.
  - h. Radioactive Components - radioactive materials.
  - i. Software - the software identification number.
  - j. Markings - markings that indicate the primary purpose, function or application of the Item of Supply.
5. For assemblies only, the Contractor shall supply the final assembly drawing or parts list, or both, including known NSNs and part numbers of constituent parts.
6. Where the Item of Supply is designed for a specific application, the source data shall identify the end item application.
7. Where the Item of Supply contains items of a hazardous nature, the information shall identify the existence of any hazard and the Contractor shall provide a safety data sheet in accordance with DEFCON 68.

## Requests For NATO Codification

8. Where the Contractor is required to apply for NATO Codification on behalf of the Authority:
- a. all requests for codification action must be submitted using the Authority's mandated system.
  - b. Access to the Authority's mandated system is via a user account allocated by UK NCB (subject to conditions).
  - c. The Contractor shall supply the following additional information to the Codification Authority to enable automated item introduction on the Authority's relevant base inventory system. Where this information is not known, the Authority's Representative shall be contacted for guidance:

Data Field	CRISP	SS3	SCCS	ASTRID
Domestic Management Code – DMC		Y		
Inventory Management Code – IMC	Y			
Supply Management Branch - SMBi			Y	

Requirement for Provenance and Traceability (items fitted to aircraft requiring Certificate of Conformity)	Y	Y	Y	Y
Used on next higher assembly – End item information	Y	Y	Y	Y
Unit of Issue Code	Y	Y	Y	Y
Hazardous Indicator	Y	Y	Y	Y
Materiel Accounting Classification Code	Y	Y	Y	Y
Shelf Life Code	Y	Y	Y	
Estimated Price	Y			
Procurement Reference Code	Y	Y		
Special To Contents Container Indicator	Y		Y	
Periodic Maintenance Interval Code	Y			
Pre-Issue Inspection Code	Y			
Quality Assurance Documentation Code	Y			
Inventory Classification Code		Y		
Capital Indicator Code		Y		