ENGINEERING PRACTICE STUDY

TITLE: PROPOSED REMOVAL OF THE QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENT FROM MIL-PRF-14409

10 January 2020

FINAL REPORT

Study Conducted by DLA Land and Maritime

Project Number: 5910-2020-003

Prepared by:

BONITATIBUS.JOHN.A.1287388922
Digitally signed by BONITATIBUS.JOHN.A.1287388922
Date: 2020.01.08 15:50:46 -05'00'

John A. Bonitatibus
Electronics Engineer
Electronic Components Branch

Approved by:

RADECKI.MICHAEL.A.1230152051
Digitally signed by RADECKI.MICHAEL.A.1230152051
Date: 2020.01.13 12:42:02 -05'00'

Michael A. Radecki
Chief
Electronic Components Branch

I. OBJECTIVE: An engineering practices study has been conducted to determine the feasibility of removing the qualification requirement from MIL-PRF-14409 (Capacitors, Variable (Piston Type, Tubular Trimmer), General Specification for) and converting it to a first article specification.

II. BACKGROUND: Historically, there have been two sources listed on the qualified products list (QPL) for MIL-PRF-14409, Sprague-Goodman Electronics, Inc. and Knowles Corporation (formerly Voltronics). Sprague-Goodman has recently requested removal from the QPL based on lack of demand. They have offered a life-time buy and are liquidating residual stock. Knowles Corporation's QPL status is currently on hold due to a facility move. An audit of this new location as well as qualification testing is required to release the hold. Knowles is not sure that they can justify re-qualification based on the expense, low demand, and limited resources. Additionally, the DLA Land and Maritime Sourcing and Qualifications division (VQ) does not believe that the demand for these capacitors warrants the cost of an audit and ongoing QPL maintenance.

A review of DLA's annual demand for MIL-PRF-14409 product shows little activity; however, the current QPL situation has prohibited necessary purchases. DLA Land and Maritime VQ is not optimistic that the QPL situation will be remedied soon; therefore, we are considering removing the qualification requirement from MIL-PRF-14409 and converting it to a first article specification. A first article specification allows DLA and users to purchase product from any manufacturer and, if necessary, require first article testing (FAT) to ensure conformance with the specification requirements.

III. RESULTS: Recipients of the study were requested to provide comments to john.bonitatibus@dla.mil. There were no objections to the proposal to remove the qualification requirement from MIL-PRF-14409 and convert it to a first article specification.

IV. CONCLUSIONS: Military and industry representatives agree with the proposal to remove the qualification requirement from MIL-PRF-14409 and convert it to a first article specification.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS: DLA Land and Maritime recommends that a project be initiated to revise MIL-PRF-14409 to remove the qualification requirement and convert it to a first article specification.