



DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY
DLA LAND AND MARITIME
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June 14, 2018

MEMORANDUM FOR MILITARY/INDUSTRY DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Engineering Practices Study (EPS), Request for Comments on Proposed Standardization Options for MIL-DTL-38999/60, "Connectors, Electrical, Plug, Circular, Threaded, Straight, Removable Crimp Contacts, Fiber Optic Termini, Tight Tolerance, Series III, Shell Size 25, Metric" and MIL-DTL-38999/61, "Connectors, Electrical, Circular, Receptacle, Threaded, Wall Mounting Flange, Removable Crimp Contacts, Fiber Optic Termini, Tight Tolerance, Series III, Shell Size 25, Metric".
Project Numbers 5935-2018-107 and 5935-2018-108.

The subject Engineering Practice Study, dated 14 June 2018, is intended to gauge the extent of interest the subject military specification sheets. Feedback is sought from the military services, connector manufacturers, and user communities relating to proposed standardization options for these documents. The documents were originally published in 2004, however, no source has sought to qualify their product to the specification requirements for listing on QPL-38999.

The three proposed standardization options include 1) Revise and maintain as active documents, 2) Revise and convert from Qualification Inspection to First Article Inspection and 3) Cancel the documents. Lack of a response will be interpreted as no interest in the documents and as endorsement of option #3, above.

This EPS is available for viewing or downloading from the DLA Land and Maritime website at the following address:

<http://www.landandmaritimeapps.dla.mil/Programs/MilSpec/initialdrafts.aspx>

Please submit your comments by email within 45 calendar days of the date of this letter to the following email address: Lisa.Hoffer@dlamail.mil.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Lisa Hoffer at the following phone numbers or email address: 614-692-7702, fax: 614-692-6939, e-mail: Lisa.Hoffer@dlamail.mil.

Sincerely,

/ *SIGNED* /

ABDONASSER M. ABDOUNI
Chief
Interconnection Branch

Attachment:

1. Engineering Practice Study

cc:

DSCC.Standardization@dlamail.mil

ENGINEERING PRACTICE STUDY

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON PROPOSED
STANDARDIZATION OPTIONS FOR
MIL-DTL-38999/60 AND MIL-DTL-38999/61**

PROPOSED STANDARDIZATION OPTIONS:

- 1) REVISE,**
- 2) CONVERSION FROM QUALIFIED PRODUCT LIST (QPL)
SPECIFICATIONS TO FIRST ARTICLE TEST (FAT)
SPECIFICATIONS, AND**
- 3) CANCEL THE SPECIFICATION SHEETS.**

PROJECT NUMBERS: 5935-2018-107 AND 5935-2018-108

14 JUNE 2018

Prepared by:

Lisa Hoffer
Project Engineer (Circular Connectors)
DSCC-VAI

ENGINEERING PRACTICE STUDY

Survey of Interested Parties; MIL-DTL-38999/60 and MIL-DTL-38999/61:
Standardization options include update/revise slash sheets, convert from Qualified Product List (QPL) to First Article Test (FAT) specification sheets, or cancel both documents.

- I. OBJECTIVES: Survey qualified manufacturers, military users and other interested parties to reach a consensus on the following proposals for the subject mil spec documents.
- II. BACKGROUND: MIL-DTL-38999/60, "Connectors, Electrical, Plug, Circular, Threaded, Straight, Removable Crimp Contacts, Fiber Optic Termini, Tight Tolerance, Series III, Shell Size 25, Metric" and MIL-DTL-38999/61, "Connectors, Electrical, Circular, Receptacle, Threaded, Wall Mounting Flange, Removable Crimp Contacts, Fiber Optic Termini, Tight Tolerance, Series III, Shell Size 25, Metric". Manufacturers are required to qualify their products to QPL-38999.

These documents were originally created on 15 December 2004. To date, no manufacturer has expressed interest in qualifying product to these specification sheets.

The following standardization options are being considered:

- 1) If a connector manufacturer submits a letter of intent, indicating that the company is preparing to qualify product to both documents prior to the end of calendar year 2018, then this office proposes to revise the documents to bring them into compliance with the requirements of MIL-STD-961. The company shall be required to submit a form 19P to the Qualifying Activity.
- 2) If no letters of intent are received as referenced in 1), above, then request feedback from all interested parties on a proposal to convert the specification sheets from a QPL type specification to FAT requirements. Currently, the subject specification sheets require that connectors furnished to MIL-DTL-38999 shall be products that are authorized by the qualifying activity for listing on QPL-38999 prior to contract award (see MIL-DTL-38999, paragraph 3.2). Conversion to "FAT" documents (note: The proposed conversion would be included in the subject specification sheets only, as an exception to the QPL requirement in the basic document).: See the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) subpart 9.3, and also MIL-STD-961, paragraph 5.9.4.1, for more information on mil specifications that require "FAT". In this instance, the terminology for a "first article" inspection requirement indicates that this is a specification that can require qualification testing during preproduction, initial production, or both, prior to regular production. FAT is required to ensure that the contractor can furnish a product that meets the established specification requirements on a contract. For subsequent contracts, FAT inspection is often reduced or possibly waived for manufacturers with a proven record of providing product on a recent, previous contract.
- 3) If there is no interest in either option 1) or 2) above, then this office will propose cancelling MIL-DTL-38999/60 and MIL-DTL-38999/61.

III. METHODOLOGY: All comments will be evaluated and dispositioned.

IV. RESULTS: Final results of this effort, including recommendations and conclusions, will be documented in a final EP study report.