



Tek Talk

June, 2002

Cancellation & Revision of CIDs



The Standardization Management Services Branch of the Product Services Office has recently revised and canceled several [Commercial Item Descriptions \(CIDs\)](#). The revised CIDs are currently used for acquisition of commercial food components and field feeding equipment in operational rations, in addition to food service equipment within the Prime Vendor program. Since March 1, 2002 the following documents have been revised:

- A-A-20091D Salad Oil, Vegetable
- A-A-20100C Shortening Compounds
- A-A-20332A Water, Drinking, Emergency
- A-A-52218A Chest, Ice Storage
- A-A-52193C Food Container, Insulated, with Inserts
- A-A-50064A Ranges, Gas, Commercial
- A-A-20078B Jelly, Fruit

Notes: *Salad Oils and Shortening Compounds were so antiquated that Industry submitted extensive changes and updates to our product and analytical requirements in service to our valued customers. The shortening compound CID was updated with respect to the availability of modern day shortening*

compounds of improved functionality and performance. In the old shortening compound CID, coconut, palm and palm kernel oils were excluded from the type III (Liquid shortening, deep-fry cooking). This was due to the high saturated fat content. Industry now has the ability to meet the functional needs of the product in which they are to be used and not on the source of the oils and fats. The CID for vegetable salad oils now contains additional types of oils for customers requiring oil blends with or without peanut oil.

The following documents are no longer used for procurement purposes and have been canceled:

- A-A-50500 Dough Divider, Roll, Hand Operated, 36-Part and Dough Divider and Rounding Machine, Roll, 36-Part.
- A-A-52068 Scraper, Bakers A-A-52145 Kettles, Steam Jacketed (Stainless Steel), Gas
- A-A-52117 Tong, Food Serving

[Sally Gallagher](#), (215) 737-2961, or [Rich Popson](#), (215) 737-2975 may be contacted for additional information.

Subsistence Web Pages



The Product Services Office of Subsistence has recently implemented several new web pages, dedicated to the "digital" documentation of Military specifications and standards. The following are just some of the newly developed pages:

- Metrics - [Canceled Specifications \(Yearly\)](#)
- Quality Assurance Publications - [Evaluation Of Temperature Stressed MRE's](#)
- Quality Assurance Publications - [Visual Aids for Inspection of Metal Containers](#)
- Specifications - [Commercial Item Descriptions \(CIDs\) and Military Details \(MIL-DTLs\)](#)
- Specifications - [Website Addresses for Military Publications](#)

[Joe Rotondo](#), (215) 737-8323, may be contacted for additional information.

Quality Assurance Publications Update



Inspection Policy Updates:

- DSCPM 41155.6 and Operational Rations Monographs and Inspection Criteria.
- Two updated subsections of 4155.6 were added to the Product Services website this week.
- Forty-six updated monographs for Appx A (MRE's) were also posted.
- Visual Can Defects for Appx B posted on the web along with defect tables listing Critical, Major, and Minor defects.

[Quality Assurance Publications Web Page](#)

[Gordon Gee](#), (215) 737-8342, may be contacted for additional information.

Vendor for Emergency Food and Drinking Water, Pre-Designed Emergency Kits



Survivor Industries, Inc. contacted the Directorate a few years ago when the Specification Preparing Activity began market research conversion of the Military Specification for Food Packet, Abandon Ship. Since that time, Vice President Bob Soltz has worked diligently for acceptance of his company's products by the Federal Government and specifically, the Dept. of Defense. Past uses of these items include Kosovo, Bosnia, and South Africa as humanitarian relief; nationally for emergency relief; and most recently, as security and emergency situations by some federal agencies. Mr. Soltz recently contacted the Standardization Branch to inform us that his items were now all available through the [GSA Advantage program](#). These items include a emergency food ration, flexibly-packaged water, and a number of other inexpensive emergency non-food type items.

[John Woloszyn](#), (215) 737-4435, may be contacted for additional information.

Product Services Assists Operational Rations Business Unit



The Group Field Feeding Branch has requested technical assistance from the Product Services' food technologists in determining commercial equivalents for their military unique items in the Unitized B ration program. The food technologists have been working closely with commercial food distributors and manufacturers since the advent of the prime vendor program. These professionals enhance their knowledge of available products by serving on technical review panels, conducting product audits and developing product descriptions. The experience gained from this working relationship with the commercial sector provides a unique perspective and understanding of the types of products and packaging that are available in the marketplace today. If market research would have to provide this data, it probably would be a very time consuming process. Tapping into the existing commercial market should demonstrate significant time and cost savings over the traditional research, development and acquisition process for uniquely specified military items. The relatively new partnering with operational rations has already resulted in several possible replacement items. This team effort will continually provide an avenue for the recommendation of commercial items as a substitute or replacement for the military unique items.

[Catherine Capriotti](#), (215) 737-4256, or [Harriett Friedel](#), (215) 737-5302, may be contacted for additional information.