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MILITARY STANDARD

JOINT ELECTRONICS

TYPE DESIGNATION SYSTEM



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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Supply and Logistics
Joint Electronics Type Designation System
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1. This standard has been approved by the Department of Defense for use by the Departments of the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force, and, in accordance with international agreement, by the Canadian Department of National Defense.
2. In accordance with established procedure, the Signal Corps, Bureau of Ships, and Air Force, have been designated as Army-Navy-Air Force custodians of this standard.
3. This standard is mandatory for use effective 16 September 1960 by the Departments of the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force.
4. Recommended corrections, additions, or deletions should be addressed to the Armed Forces Supply Support Center, Washington 25, D. C.

FOREWORD

The purpose of this standard is to establish procedures within the Department of Defense for Standardization of identification for design control of electronic material and associated equipment as defined herein.

History. The Joint Electronics Type Designation System (formerly the Joint Army-Navy Nomenclature System) was adopted 16 February 1943 by the Joint Communications Board for Joint Army-Navy use, and approved by the Combined Communications Board on 17 February 1943 for all new U. S. Army, and all new U. S. Navy airborne, radio, and radar equipment. Further, on 26 November 1943, the Joint Communications Board approved the extension of the scope of the system to include equipment designed by the Navy specifically for Marine Corps and amphibious use. On 1 August 1946, the Bureau of Ships, Department of the Navy, adopted the system for use of ship, submarine, and ground electronic equipment. Similar action was taken by the Bureau of Ordnance, Department of the Navy, on 18 October 1946, to cover the electronic portions of its fire-control systems. The U. S. Air Force, upon its establishment as a separate Department, continued the use of the system for electronic equipment. On 16 January 1950, the U. S. Coast Guard adopted the system to identify any electronic equipment which it may develop or adopt. On 16 August 1951, the Joint Communications-Electronics Committee of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, approved Canadian integration with the AN nomenclature system. On approximately 8 June 1953, the Office of the Chief of Ordnance, Department of the Army, adopted the system for its use.

Organization. The AN system is operated in accordance with basic policies of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Supply and Logistics, and those established herein, and is approved and administered by the issuing authority as a joint standardization procedure.

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1. GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE. The Joint Electronics Type Designation System and procedures are mandatory for use in the assignment of AN type nomenclature to all electronic material as defined herein (sec 1.1.1 and 3.1). The military departments may use this system for allied classes of material where such usage is in accordance with standard Department of Defense procedures. AN type designations must be assigned to at least the following equipment types:

1.1.1 Equipment types. Electromagnetic radiating and nonradiating equipment, except that radiating in the visible spectrum, such as:

1.1.1.1 Radio (including television, relay, telemetering, and terminal equipment).

1.1.1.2 Radar (including identification and recognition equipment).

1.1.1.3 Electronic and electromechanical computers.

1.1.1.4 Flight control and aids to aircraft control and navigation (including automatic flight control equipment, automatic pilots, and air data computers which may be tied into a fire-control set, an instrument landing set, a navigation set, and data link set).

1.1.1.5 Weapon control systems (including evaluation and scoring of gun, missile, bomb, and underwater weapon control excluding certain systems or devices to which electronics control is only incidental).

1.1.1.6 Electronic countermeasures (including electronic deception and electronic jamming).

1.1.1.7 Radiac (nuclear radiation, detection, indicating, and computing devices).

1.1.1.8 Infrared.

1.1.1.9 Meteorological.

1.1.1.10 Magnetic amplifier and detection equipment.

1.1.1.11 Control of nuclear power.

1.1.1.12 Equipment for transmission of reception of intelligence by wire or cables (including recorders, reproducers, telephone, telegraph, teletype, facsimile, television, interphone, public address, and telemetering).

1.1.1.13 Equipment for the detection of noise and interference in the radio frequency spectrum.

1.1.1.14 Underwater sound radiating and nonradiating equipment including those for listening, ranging, sounding, communication, object location.

1.1.1.15 Training and instruction equipment for any of the above.

1.1.1.16 Equipment auxiliary and accessory to the preceding kinds of times, such as antennas, connectors, dynamotors, headsets, microphones, radomes, servo-amplifiers, test equipment, waveguides, cooling, heating, and pressurizing equipment, vehicles, special tools, positioning and time devices, simulators, synchronizers, and plotting equipment, etc.

1.2 OBJECTIVES. The Joint Electronics Type Designation System, hereinafter referred to as the AN System, shall fulfill the following objectives:

1.2.1 Serve as a tool for simplification of identification of electronic material as defined in paragraph 3 below.

1.2.2 Be sufficiently descriptive to identify similar material and at the same time aid in the distinguishing of significant differences from a user's point of view by use of indicators for designed usage and purpose.

1.2.3 Be definitive as to classes of material for which applicable.

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1.2.4 Be flexible and sufficiently broad in scope to cover present types of equipment, and the new types and uses of equipment that will be developed in the future.

1.2.5 Avoid conflict with single-service type designations now assigned to Air Force, Army, and Navy equipment.

1.2.6 Provide adequate identification on identification plates, shipping crates, etc., without the use of the item name portion of the nomenclature.

1.2.7 Provide a ready means of identifying equipment in correspondence and other means of communication in the clear.

1.3 GENERAL APPLICATION.

1.3.1 AN type designations shall be assigned to:

1.3.1.1 Complete sets, systems, centrals, groups, major units, and subassemblies, of military design either definitive or variable in configuration.

1.3.1.2 Groups of articles, of either commercial or military design, which are grouped for a military purpose.

1.3.1.3 Major articles of military design which are not part of, or used with, a set.

1.3.1.4 Commercial articles to facilitate military identification or procedures.

1.3.2 AN type designations will not be assigned to:

1.3.2.1 Articles cataloged commercially, except in accordance with subparagraph 1.3.1.4.

1.3.2.2 Parts such as capacitors, electron tubes, and resistors, except if required to facilitate military identification or procedures.

1.3.2.3 Articles having other adequate identification in coordinated (joint) military specifications.

1.4 COORDINATION.

1.4.1 AN type designation assignments, when a joint military interest has been determined, shall require the prior concurrence of the services, as applicable.

1.5 WORD NAMES AND SEQUENCE.

1.5.1 Names used in nomenclature assignments will be consistent with the policies of the Federal Cataloging Program as promulgated by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Supply and Logistics, (OASD, S&L).

1.5.1.1 Names used in nomenclature assignments shall be in the same format as promulgated by OASD, (S&L).

1.5.1.2 Nomenclature assignments using the word sequences prescribed by OASD, (S&L), will be applied to the equipments or units under procurement when assigning suffix letters.

1.5.1.3 Nomenclature assignments using word sequence in the manner prescribed by OASD, S&L, may be applied retroactively to equipments or units.

1.6 SECURITY CLASSIFICATION.

1.6.1 All AN nomenclature assignments shall be unclassified in order to provide a ready means of identification, in correspondence and other means of communication, in the clear.

1.6.2 The security classification of nomenclature descriptions shall be in accordance with the content of the description and with military security requirements. DD Form 61 for classified items which result in an unclassified description will however be stamped "UNCLASSIFIED" on the top and bottom of the form.

1.6.3 The security classification of the item described shall be indicated on the nomenclature request and the resulting nomenclature card.

1.6.4 Regrading of DD Form 61 and nomenclature cards will be accomplished through the submission of appropriate notification by the cognizant department. Such notification will

identify the DD Form 61 to be reclassified by the appropriate source request numbers and the subsequent nomenclature cards. The appropriate shipment numbers for the cards shall be included if known.

1.7 CANCELLATIONS.

1.7.1 AN type designation may be cancelled upon request by the originating service when:

1.7.1.1 There has been no procurement of the item.

1.7.1.2 No experimental models are in field use.

1.7.1.3 No further use of the type designation is required for developmental purposes.

1.7.2 Cancelled AN type designations will not be reactivated except upon request or ap-

proval of the Department that had originally cancelled the type designation.

1.8 DESCRIPTIONS.

1.8.1 Each type designation assignment shall be justified on the basis of a description that contains sufficient electrical, mechanical, and reference data to distinguish the item described from all other items. The selection of the type designation elements shall be determined by the technical characteristics of the item and not necessarily by its chosen name.

1.8.2 The same type designation assignment shall not be used to identify items which differ in operational, electrical, or mechanical characteristics.

1.8.3 When the description of the item is no longer technically correct it is the obligation of the requesting service, or agency, to revise the description of such item.

2. REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

2.1 Documents referenced in this standard are of the issue in effect on the date of invitation for bids and are listed below:

MIL-STD-243—Types and Definitions of
Models for Communica-
tions—Electronics Equip-
ment.

H6-1 —Federal Item Identification
Guides for Supply Cata-
loging, Part 1 (Indexes).

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1 DEFINITIONS. For the purpose of this standard, the following definitions apply:

3.1.1 Nomenclature. Nomenclature in the Joint Electronics Type Designation System is defined as the combination of an authorized item name and a type designation. These are defined as follows:

3.1.1.1 Type designation. A type designation is a combination of letters and numerals arranged in a specific sequence to provide a short significant method of identification.

3.1.1.2 Item name. The item name is a name published in the Federal Cataloging Handbook H6-1, or that name developed and subsequently approved for use by the cataloging division of the Armed Forces Supply Support Center, or that name selected by the requesting department as being consistent with Federal cataloging policies.

3.1.2 Electronics. Electronics is the science and technology which is concerned with devices involving the emission, behavior, and effect of electrons in vacuums, gases, and semiconductors. Technically, electronics is a broad term extending into divergent fields, and it is necessary to define the scope covered by electronics in terms of "electronic material."

3.1.3 Electronic material. Electronic material, from a military point of view, generally includes those electronics devices employed in the field of detection and tracking (underwater, sea, land, air, and space), recognition and identification, communications, aids to navigation, weapons control and evaluation, flight control, and electronics countermeasures. In every case, electronic devices are understood to include peculiar non-electronic units required to complete their individual operational function, such as power supplies, hoist mechanism, antennas, etc., but to exclude associated nonelectronic equipment in certain overall systems.

3.1.4 Models. The following list of types of models is descriptive of the stages which may be

involved in the overall process of research, development, and production. All of the listed types are not necessarily produced.

3.1.4.1 Breadboard model (see MIL-STD-243).

3.1.4.2 Experimental model (see MIL-STD-243).

3.1.4.3 Developmental model (see MIL-STD-243).

3.1.4.4 Service test model (see MIL-STD-243).

3.1.4.5 Prototype (preproduction) model (see MIL-STD-243).

3.1.4.6 Production model (see MIL-STD-243).

3.1.5 Sets.

3.1.5.1 Set. A set is defined as: a grouping of items having the same basic name for use in connection with, or for performance of closely related operations; or a number of groups, units, or a combination thereof, not all having the same basic name, which are required for the performance of an operational function. May exclude certain operating units supplied separately or already present at the point of usage. In some cases a set may be a single major unit capable of performing an operational function.

3.1.5.2 Definitive set. A definitive set is one consisting of a fixed number of groups, units, assemblies, or combinations thereof.

3.1.5.3 Variable set. A variable set is an assemblage of groups, units, assemblies, or combinations thereof, existing under at least one of the following conditions:

3.1.5.3.1 Those assemblages described as capable of performing more than one function, with the functions being performed, being dependent