

DLA L&M, in an effort to make sure all affected parties have access to this information, requested and obtained Amphenol Aerospace's permission on 09 May to post the following on our public website. Since this data was excerpted from GIDEP document NX4-P-09, we also requested and obtained the GIDEP Program Manager's permission to take this special and urgent action in accordance with GIDEP Distribution Policy.

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1. TITLE

DLA Land and Maritime Guidance on Connector Stop Shipment

2. DOCUMENT NUMBER

AAN-U-16-226C

3. DATE

02 MAY 2016

4. SUBMITTING AGENCY

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6. DISCUSSION

Amendment C is being issued for clarification on 2 subjects.

1. Due to questions being fielded regarding the 120 day release verses 60 days originally posted for sole source QPL product, we are issuing a clarification. The original AAN stated "In order to minimize readiness impact, the stop shipment letter allows items for which AAO is the only QPL source for that item to be shipped for a period of 60 days, upon correction of audit deficiencies and with increased lot testing surveillance by DLA." When the letter was issued after the conditions were met, the proposed 60 day allowance was changed to 120 days and applies to all of the sole sourced QPL items.

2. In order to clarify any confusion regarding shipment of commercial product manufactured by Amphenol Aerospace and to clarify the sale of QPL product to commercial entities, the following statements are offered:

The stop shipment order does NOT apply to product manufactured, marked and sold as commercial product. Note: While potentially made from the same components and utilizing the same processes, commercial products are not equivalent to QPL products as they have not been qualified under the applicable specification(s).

The stop shipment order DOES apply to any product intended to be marked or sold as QPL product regardless of the purchaser of the QPL marked product.

Amendment B : DLA Land and Maritime has issued a released of stop shipment letter to Amphenol Aerospace (AAO) for QPL sole sourced MIL-DTL-38999, MIL-DTL-26482 series II only, MIL-DTL-22992, MIL-DTL-27599 and MIL-DTL-83723 connectors. The stop shipment order for these products has been lifted effective April 20, 2016 for products from these specifications which are sole sourced by Amphenol as listed on the applicable Qualified Products Lists (QPLs). This relief will be in effect for 120 days from April 20th. AAO will be required to submit information to DLA Land and Maritime on all product they ship under this relief. After 120 days the stop shipment order will be re-imposed unless otherwise indicated in writing by DLA Land and Maritime.

Amendment A: DLA Land and Maritime has released Amphenol Aerospace (AAO) from the stop shipment notice for MIL- DTL-55302 and MIL-DTL-83513.

Original Document: DLA Land and Maritime in Columbus, Ohio manages over 200 Mil Specs with qualification (QPL) requirements. The sourcing and qualification mission ensures product performance, quality, and reliability of product independent of any acquisition or contract. The program is governed by DoDM 4120.24 and SD-6. DLA recently placed Amphenol Aerospace (AAO) on a "Stop Shipment" order for not meeting essential requirements in the following military specifications for qualified products: MIL-DTL-22992, 26482, 26500, 27599, 38999 and 83723. There are two primary issues that led to the stop shipment notice: Sourcing of components from unapproved facilities, delinquent retention tests required to retain qualification. To be clear, the component parts from unapproved facilities are some of the parts that make up the connector assembly-not the entire connector assembly. The retention tests are rigorous tests and are designed to determine the part's ability to perform in extreme conditions. These tests can be destructive in nature, and include tests like shock, vibration, salt spray, etc. Required testing which extends beyond retention testing to qualify and retain qualification is cited in section four of the detail specs in question.

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In order to minimize readiness impact, the stop shipment letter allows items for which AAO is the only QPL source for that item to be shipped for a period of 60 days, upon correction of audit deficiencies and with increased lot testing surveillance by DLA. Based on the current corrective action plan, final release of the stop shipment order will occur incrementally through the end of the fiscal year, spec by spec, as they complete the necessary corrective actions.

Our near-term communication plan is to direct AAO to publish a series of Government-Industry Data Exchange Program (GIDEP) notices to our industry and Military partners. The GIDEPs will provide the necessary information to perform a risk assessment to determine the best course of action on your program(s). AAO indicates that it has been using unapproved facilities for some components for up to 10 years. Few reported issues and little PQDR activity in the DLA system within that time frame, suggests this is most likely a low to moderate risk scenario from an operational perspective.

However, the PMs, PEOs, and engineering communities need to make their own risk based assessment based on the application, need and the facts surrounding the stop shipment provided in the pending GIDEPs. We have initiated independent testing at our lab in Columbus, Ohio and will publish those results via the GIDEP system. We understand some OEMs are also performing independent testing and we encourage them to issue GIDEPs to further assist in the risk assessment.

DLA cannot provide specific direction or disposition on the military service or OEM on hand inventory. This decision must be made internally based on the application, need and the facts surrounding the stop shipment. DLA will provide additional updates as warranted. Questions may be sent to VQP@DLA.MIL.