NOTICE OF CHANGE

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MIL-STD-1168A
NOTICE 2
17 MARCH 1993

MILITARY STANDARD
AMMUNITION LOT NUMBERING

TO ALL HOLDERS OF MIL-STD-1168A:

1. THE FOLLOWING PAGES OF MIL-STD-1168A HAVE BEEN REVISED AND SUPERSEDE THE PAGES LISTED:

NEW PAGE	DATE	SUPERSEDED PAGE	DATE
13	28 February 1975	13	REPRINTED WITHOUT CHANGE
14	TO BE INSERTED	14	28 February 1975
35	TO BE INSERTED	35	28 February 1975
36	28 February 1975	36	REPRINTED WITHOUT CHANGE
39	TO BE INSERTED	39	28 February 1975
40	28 February 1975	40	REPRINTED WITHOUT CHANGE
41	28 February 1975	41	REPRINTED WITHOUT CHANGE
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2. RETAIN THIS NOTICE AND INSERT BEFORE TABLE OF CONTENTS.

3. Holders of MIL-STD-1168A will verify that page changes and additions indicated above have been entered. This Notice together with appended pages, is a separate publication. Each Notice is to be retained by stocking points until the Military Standard is completely revised or cancelled.

4. Vertical lines are used in this Notice to denote changes (additions, modifications, corrections, deletions) from the basic standard. This was done as a convenience only and the Government assumes no liability whatsoever for any inaccuracies in these notations. Bidders and contractors are cautioned to evaluate the requirements of this document based on the entire content irrespective of the marginal notations and relationship to the basic standard.

Custodian
Army - AR
Navy - OS
Air Forces - 99

Review activities
Army - MI
Navy - MC
Air Force - 70

Preparing activity:
Army - AR

(Project 1395-0247)

AMSC N/A

FSC 1395

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LAP facilities shall affix their own manufacturer's identification symbols, the appropriate year of manufacturer/assembly, month of production, lot interfix and sequence numbers to each lot processed at their facility. The same applies to LAP plants processing propellants, propellant charges and other types of explosives with the exception of propellants used in single granulation propellant charges (see 5.2).

Example: Fuze, PI, BD, M509A1 MPTS – The metal parts producer's lot number is AAA74F007–001. The LAP facility loading the fuze shall use its own symbol, year of production, month of production, lot interfix and lot sequence number. (Example: XYZ74H004–006 shall be the LAP lot number for the assembled fuze.) The assembled fuze shall not retain the AAA74F007–001 lot number identification.

4.1.2 Year of production. Each ammunition lot number commencing with the first lot manufactured, assembled or modified shall have the year of production inserted after the manufacturer's identification symbol. The year of production is a two (2) digit code represented by the last two (2) numbers of the current year that manufacture, assembly or modification of the lot was initiated. There are no spaces between the manufacturer's identification symbol, the year of production code and the alpha code used to identify the month of production. The contractor is responsible for the correct application and placement of the year of production code into the lot number. However, ACO's, QAR's, PCO's, PQS's, Commodity Managers, Inspectors, QA Specialists, etc., are responsible for assuring that contractors are knowledgeable in the use and application of the year of production code and that the code used correctly represents the year of production for the lot.

4.1.3 Month of production. Each ammunition lot number commencing with the first lot produced, assembled or modified shall have the month of production inserted after the two (2) digit code identifying the year of production. The month of production is a single alpha code assigned as follows:

January – A	May – E	September – J
February – B	June – F	October – K
March – C	July – G	November – L
April – D	August – H	December – M

The single alpha code reflects the month of the year in which the manufacture, assembly or modification of the lot was initiated. There are no spaces between the year of

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production code, the month of production code and the first digit of the lot interfix number. A change in the month of production does not necessitate the lot interfix number or the lot sequence number to revert to "001". The contractor is responsible for the correct application and placement of the month of production code into the lot number. However, ACO's, QAR's, PCO's, PQS's, Commodity Managers, Inspectors, QA Specialists, etc., are responsible for assuring that contractors are knowledgeable in the use and application of the month of production code and that the code used correctly represents the month of production for the lot.

4.1.4 Lot interfix number. Each ammunition lot number commencing with the first lot produced, assembled, or modified shall have an interfix number not to exceed three (3) digits (999). The interfix number will usually start with "001". Others will be based on the determination of those persons responsible for assigning interfix numbers as defined in paragraphs 4.1.4.2 and 4.1.4.3.

4.1.4.1 Assignment of lot interfix numbers. Assignment of lot interfix numbers or blocks of numbers will be made by those persons delegated with the responsibility of determining when the interfix number will be changed, when and what blocks of interfix numbers will be used, etc. When there is any uncertainty as to the last previous interfix number used for the item, the assignment will be coordinated with the master data card repository of the appropriate procuring service prior to authorizing production and assignment of an interfix number. (See 6.6 for listing of master data card repositories.) In most instances assignment of interfix numbers for an item will be in numerical sequence. (Exceptions to this procedure are cited herein.) Plant, depot, etc. personnel (Government and contractor) are responsible for alerting persons responsible for assigning interfix numbers when changes are anticipated.

4.1.4.2 Responsibility for assigning interfix numbers. Product Quality Managers, as appropriate, will be responsible for assigning interfix numbers for those lots of ammunition components, ammunition items if issue, explosive materiels, etc., manufactured or assembled by the various private contractors, GOGO and GOCO facilities. Quality Assurance Representatives at such facilities are responsible for verifying the correct use of interfix numbers. Delegation of the Product Quality Manager's authority to plant QARs, ACOs, etc., does not relieve these persons of primary responsibility. The Chief Inspectors/Quality Assurance Specialists of the Quality Assurance function at depots, in the field, etc., will be responsible for assigning interfix numbers for those items and those lots which are modified or some other type of operation performed which will necessitate a change in the interfix numbers.

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d. Five (5) years later depot I decides to unplug and refuze 1,000 rounds of the original 2,000 rounds which were defuzed and plugged. This 1,000 rounds now becomes AMC74J002-012D.

Different suffixes must be assigned for different types of reworks which are performed on the same basic item. Different suffixes must also be assigned even when the same type of rework is performed at a different time or different place as exemplified in a and c above. For instance, X-raying of separate quantities of the same basic item at different times, even if performed at the same depot, would necessitate the assignment of different suffixes to identify each of the quantities X-rayed. A suffix is not required when the operation requires a change of NSN and DODIC and the new configuration is positively identified.

5.1.3.2.1 When lots are assigned a suffix during production (see 5.1.3.1) and later require reworking in the field, the next sequential alpha will be used to identify the quantity being reworked in accordance with exceptions noted in 5.4.

5.1.3.2.2 When lots or portions of lots of ammunition are being reworked at depots, in the field, etc., the authorization for issuing rework instructions and the types of operations to be performed, quantities, etc., is the responsibility of the appropriate NICP/NMP agency.

5.1.3.3 More extensive use is to be made of lot suffixes in identifying reworks etc., performed on a lot of ammunition under the conditions described in 4.1.6, 5.1.3.1, and 5.1.3.2. The identity of the "parent" lot must be retained so long as it is considered practical or economically feasible. This can be accomplished as long as the changes effected, when reworking, are properly recorded in the "remarks" portion of the revised data card. Also, definitive information relative to the planned rework procedure must be submitted when the lot suffix is requested. Broadening the scope, application and use of the lot suffix to identify changes, modifications, renovations, etc., to the "parent" lot provides a more efficient method to control the basic lots in events of malfunctions, suspensions and releases as exemplified in the following:

Fuze, PD, M48A3 can be utilized in various configurations, i.e., fuze, PD, M48A3 with adapter as substitute for fuze, PD, M521; fuze, PD, M51A5; and fuze, PD, M557. As previously applied (in MIL-STD-1168, paragraph 5.1.2, dated 30 June 1965, subject: Military Standard Lot Numbering of Ammunition and TM-9-1300-250, paragraph

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7.3.b, dated September 1969, subject: Ammunition Maintenance), the lot number of the basic M48A3 fuze would have changed to a "500 series" interfix number each time the fuze was converted to another configuration. In the event a malfunction occurred with the basic model fuze, it required extensive data card screening world wide of all the "500 interfix" fuzes to determine the pertinent "parent" lot number; whereas retention of the basic lot number will reduce the search effort and allow more rapid identification, resulting in effecting suspensions and releases in a timelier manner.

5.1.3.4 Once a rework procedure has been issued for a lot of ammunition or a quantity thereof to a facility other than a new production plant, the facility performing the rework shall request a suffix in accordance with the following:

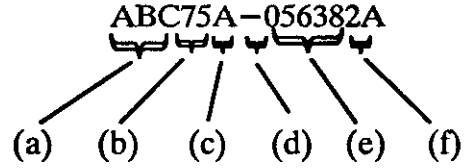
5.1.3.4.1 For the Air Force –– Commander, Ogden Air Material Area, ATTN: OOAMA (MMSS), Hill Air Force Base, UT 84406.

5.1.3.4.2 For the Navy –– Department of the Navy, US Navy Ships Parts Control Center, ATTN: CODE 734, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055.

5.1.3.4.3 For the Army –– Commander, US Army Armament Command, ATTN: AMSAR–QAD, Rock Island, IL 61201, with the exception of guided missiles and large rockets as noted in 5.1.3.4.4. below.

5.1.3.4.4 For guided missiles and large rockets as appropriate –– Commander, US Army Missile Command, ATTN: AMSMI–NL/NE (NMP), Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, AL 35809.

5.2 Propellant lot numbers. The lot numbering system for standard ammunition as defined in paragraph 4.1 will not be followed for assigning lot numbers to bulk propellants. The following illustrates the construction of a propellant lot number.



(a) Manufacturer's identification symbol.

(b) A two (2) digit numeric code identifying the year of production.

(c) A single alpha code signifying the month of production.

(d) A one (1) digit code signifying regular production propellant lots or non–standard propellant lots as specified in the following paragraphs and 5.1.

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as kind of materiel to be marked, size and shape of item, etc. The size of the marking shall be such that identification of the lot number may be readily determined. Examples of such components are fuzes, igniters, warheads and rocket motors. Loaded components are defined as those components containing explosive materiel and the lot numbers are known as component numbers.

5.3.3 Inert components. Inert components, subassemblies, and parts, whenever the size permits, shall be marked with their respective lot numbers similarily to loaded components. When size does not permit marking on the individual item the lot number shall be recorded/marked on the appropriate packing containers.

5.3.4 Complete assembled rounds. Complete assembled rounds, small caliber cartridge (below 20mm) and guided missiles excepted, shall be identified by lot numbers on the item itself. (See 6.1 for other type exceptions.) The location method of marking, size, and color of the lot number shall be as shown on the applicable "marking drawing." Marking shall be done by the stenciling method using a stencil ink, fluid, or other material that is highly resistant to weathering and wear. The markings shall be prominently displayed on the body of the items in such a manner as to be easily read. Marking shall be accomplished in the color specified for the type of ammunition or explosive materiel concerned.

5.3.5 Guided missiles. (See 5.3) Guided missiles as complete items of ammunition shall be lotted. The explosive loaded components shall be lotted and properly identified by the loaders component lot number. If specifically required by the procuring activity, the complete nomenclature and lot number of each explosive component shall be stenciled on the body of the guided missile. The size of the marking shall be consistent with the size of the missile. Marking shall be accomplished by stenciling. Details of marking shall be shown on applicable "marking drawings". Complete round guided missiles renovated or modified by either replacing or modifying the original explosive components require that a suffix be added either to the serial number or lot number. A suffix may also be used to control nonexplosive changes that are directed by the responsible organization. Instructions for each application are furnished in the respective technical inspections. When a suffix is required but not furnished in the above instructions it will be requested from the responsible activity.

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5.4 Exceptions to use of certain letters as ammunition lot suffixes. (See 4.1.6 and 5.1.3.) When reworking any items of ammunition at an LAP facility, depot, etc., where the application of an ammunition lot suffix is required, the following letters shall not be used as suffixes except as noted herein:

(a) "E" – no exceptions other than as used to denote experimental lots. (See 5.1.1.1.)

(b) "I" – no exceptions. Can easily be confused with the number "1".

(c) "O" – no exceptions. Could be easily mistaken for the number "0" (zero).

(d) "X" – no exceptions. (See 6.2.)

5.5 Required use of complete lot number. In reference to individual lots, whether in correspondence, in records, or in marking containers, packages, cartons, etc., the complete lot number shall be used.

5.6 Elimination of the "500 series". The "500 series" interfixes were previously used to identify lots which were regrouped. Implementation of the provisions of 5.1.1.9 (The "G" lots) in their entirety eliminates any need for a "500 series", since differentiation of whether modifications are performed while regrouping becomes irrelevant.

5.7 Elimination of the use of "PG", "SP", "SR", "ST", etc., in lot numbers. With the introduction, adoption, and implementation of the provisions of 5.1.1.8 special lots -- the "S" lots, the need or use of interfix designators such as "PG", "SP", "ST", "SR", etc., no longer exists. Therefore the use of such interfix designators is no longer authorized or will no longer be permitted and the provisions of 5.1.1.8 adhered to.

5.8 Elimination of the use of "B", "R", and "RB" in propellant lot numbers. Implementation of the provisions of 5.2.1, 5.2.2 and 5.2.3 in their entirety eliminates the need for the use of "B", "R", and "RB" for identifying reblended and reprocessed propellant lots.

5.9 Documenting information pertinent to lots produced under special conditions. Actions and reasons pertinent to forming, numbering, and identifying any and all ammunition lots produced under special conditions shall be explained in detail in the remarks block of the ammunition data card. These remarks shall include a listing of the lot(s) being reworked, modified, regrouped, etc.

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6.1 Items. Items (squibs, small arms cartridges, etc.) too small to be identified by lot number or serial number on the item proper may be identified by tag or like methods if considered necessary or desirable. As the minimum, the lot number shall be recorded/marked on the packaging materiel down to and including the smallest intermediate pack. Determinations of these types are functions and responsibilities of the appropriate engineering agency. (See 5.3 and pertinent sub-paragraphs thereto.)

6.2 Historical information. At one time steel cartridge cases were assembled to complete rounds and were identified by the addition of a suffix "A" to the lot sequence number of the complete round lot number. Example: AMC-1-1X. This practice is no longer required and will not be used in future production. However, as noted in 5.4.(d) the letter "X" is not to be used as a lot suffix.

6.3 "Ammunition Manufacturers and Their Symbols", MIL-STD-1461. Initial copies, revisions, and supplements to MIL-STD-1461 titled "Ammunition Manufacturers and Their Symbols" may be obtained by writing or calling the Commander, United States Army Armament Command (USAARMCOM) Product Assurance Directorate, AMSAR-QAD, Rock Island, IL 61201.

6.4 Method for obtaining required technical data. Copies of specifications, standards, drawings and publications required by contractors in connection with applicable procurement and production functions should be obtained from the appropriate procuring service NICP/NMP or as directed by the pertinent contracting officer, commodity manager, administering officer, QAR or PQS.

6.5 Procedure for requesting lot suffixes. Requests for suffixes should be directed to the appropriate procuring service NICP/NMP as outlined in 5.1.3.4. These are the only agencies authorized to issue lot suffixes for use outside of new production plants. All suffix requests should be documented e.g., letter, teletype, etc.

6.6 Method for acquiring ammunition data cards. Each service shall maintain its own repository for ammunition data cards as follows:

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6.6.1 For the Navy – Department of the Navy, US Navy SPCC, ATTN: Code 734, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055.

6.6.2 For the Air Force – Commander, Ogden Air Materiel Area, ATTN: OOAMA (MMSS), Hill AFB, VT 84406.

6.6.3 For the Army – Commander, US Army Armament Command, ATTN: AMSAR-QAD, Rock Island, IL 61201.

6.6.4 All requests for copies of ammunition data cards must be directed to the appropriate agency.

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