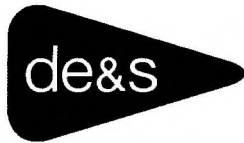




Ministry
of Defence



DE&S Secretariat (Land Equipment)

DESSEC-PolSecLE-JSC-WPNS@mod.gov.uk

Defence Equipment & Support
Maple 0a # 2043
MOD Abbey Wood
Bristol BS34 8JH



Via:

4th April 2019 Our Ref: FOI2019/03795

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 11th March 2019 requesting the following information:

I am looking to find data of UK armed forces kit failure. I am specifically looking for failures to do with clips and attachment methods on equipment like rucksacks, webbing, tie down straps.

Any data you could share on this would be most appreciated.

This was clarified on the 24th March 2019 as follows:

To be more precise I am looking for the failure data for the plastic buckles, tensioning ladders, attachment clips and any other plastic hardware on the personal gear, such as rucksacks, where these items appear all over but some specific location would be hip and chest strap and shoulder strap. Other bits of kit would be their combat webbing and clothing.

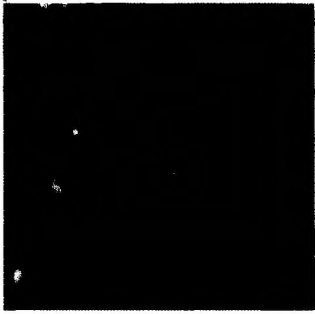
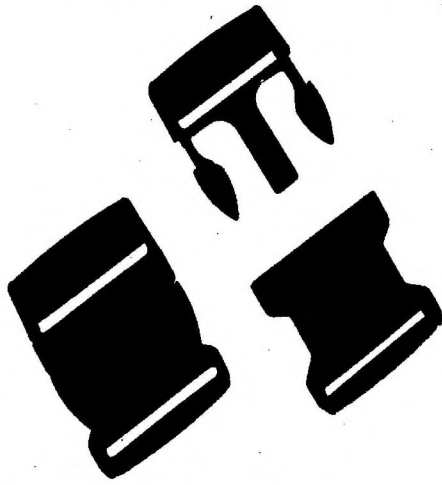
Any information would be great. I can attach images of the parts if that would help.

This was further clarified on the 25th March 2019 as follows:

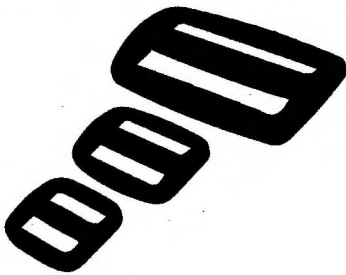
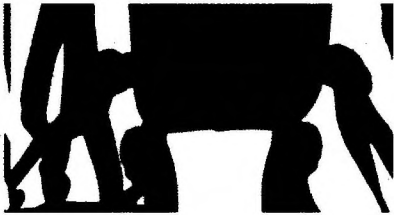
I would like to see the data for current in use equipment including. I would like to see any data going back 10 years. Please search for body armour, load carriage, burgans, rucksacks, webbing, rifle strap and helmets.

Please see the attached images for the kind of parts I am looking for data on. They are all the plastic pieces of hardware that clip pouches and belts together, hold and tighten webbing straps.

Plastic buckles large and small



Tensioning and locking plastic hardware





I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD), and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held.

I can confirm the MOD, over the last ten years, has not received any failure reports that relate to failure of any of the plastic hardware components requested for in service or legacy equipment.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted name]

DES SEC Pol Sec Land Equipment

