



Ministry
of Defence

Defence Equipment and Support
Secretariat
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Ministry of Defence
Abbey Wood
Bristol BS34 8JH



Email: DES SEC-PolSec LE-JSC-WPNS@mod.uk

Email: [REDACTED]

Our Reference:
FOI2022/14223
Date:
21 December 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 29 November 2022, requesting the following information:

Can the authority provide details of any quality audits carried out by Leidos / TVS staff on receipt of garments from the contracted supplier for the above mentioned contract [LSL/DC/0063 Waterproof Garments] upon arrival at DFC?

We would also request any independent testing of any in-service garments, either used or off the shelf during the last two years.

Also, any details on faulty items returned by users or rejections/ issues after inspection or testing by Leidos or TVS staff relating to this contract

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI Act). 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 that due to the impact of Covid, the due diligence plan for this contract has focussed on selecting and testing items delivered from the current contract. The due diligence is planned each year and staggered across the length of the contract. The testing is performed by an independent test house, and the reports generated to date are attached as Annexes A – C.

- Annex A – TR2124 dated 07/10/2021 (redacted)
- Annex B – TR2126 dated 03/05/2022 (redacted)
- Annex C – TR2212 dated 09/05/2022 (redacted)

There have been two defects reported in the last two years; both defects are for the same issue, broken teeth on the right leg zip of item 8415-99-361-7742, POL Salopettes. The two defects were reported in January and August 2022, and no other defects have been reported by the customer. With approval from the customer Team Leidos are working with the supplier to upgrade the zip quality to rectify this issue.

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In the event of a defect being reported Team Leidos will work with the supplier to identify if the defects are the result of a batch issue or a wider issue, and what the necessary corrective steps are in order to resolve the issue.

It has proved necessary to withhold some information in accordance with qualified exemptions of the FOI Act. Some of the commercially sensitive information in the inspection reports (Annexes A – C) consists of unit price information, which has been withheld under qualified exemption Section 43(2) (Commercial Interests). Section 43 concerns information which if disclosed would or would likely prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including defence contractors and the public authority holding it).

As the exemption is qualified, it was necessary to undertake a Public Interest Test to determine whether the balance for withholding the information outweighs that for disclosure. General arguments in favour of release were that full disclosure would demonstrate the MOD's commitment to openness and transparency; and make the UK Government more accountable to the electorate. The FOI Act also contains a presumption for release. However, it has been demonstrated that any disclosure of current unit prices would be likely to prejudice the ability of the MOD and its contractor to secure best value for money in a highly competitive marketplace, which would likely impact the integrity of future procurements by discouraging suppliers from tendering or contracting with the MOD if they believe their commercially sensitive information will not be protected. It would also prejudice the commercial interests of the test house/s in question by publicly revealing their pricing structures. Given this, the arguments are clear for withholding the individual unit prices in accordance with Section 43(2) of the FOI Act.

The level of prejudice against release of this exempted information has been set at the higher level of "would" rather than "would be likely to".

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,

DE&S Policy Secretariat

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QUOTE

Date: 07/10/2021

For the attention
of :

TR/21/24 MTP MVP Combat trousers
UK/SC/5444 Issue 09

REF:

Cost Code	Test	Quantity	Price	Total
Line 24	Breaking strength BS EN ISO 1421	1	█	█
Line 53	Water Vapor Permeability BS 7209 Appendix B	1	█	█
Line 50	Resistance to Water penetration BS 3424 Part 26 Method 29C	2	█	█
Line 93	Resistance to delamination - Visual assessment	60	█	█
Line70	Ageing pre-treatment 168 hours to BS EN 12280-3	210	█	█
Line 43	Flexing pre-treatment BS EN 7854 Method C 50,000 cycles	1	█	█
Line 34	Wash pretreatment 5 Cycles at 2ATD Low setting	5	█	█
Line 70	IRR After washing to UK/SC6600	7	█	█
Line 92	Return Postage	20	█	█
Sub total				█
Less discount				█
Total				█
Plus VAT @ 20%				█
Grand Total: £				█

PLEASE NOTE: this is a quote only and total cost may change.



QUOTE

Date: 03/05/2022

For the attention of : ██████████ - Leidos

REF: TR/21/26 RCT/RETTtesting

Cost Code	Test	Quantity	Price	Total
Line 93	RCT/RET Testing ISO 11092	390	█	██████
Line 93	RCT/RET Testing ISO 11092	390	█	██████
Line 93	RCT/RET Testing ISO 11092	390	█	██████
Line 50	Resistance to water penetration Bs 3424 Part 26 Method 29C	2	█	██████
Line 47	Ageing pre-treatment 168 hours to BS EN 12280-3	1	█	██████
Line 35	Flexing pre-treatment BS EN 7854 Method C 50,000	1	█	██████
Line 34	Washing pre-treatment five cycles at 2ATD Low sett	5	█	██████
Line 92	Postage	20	█	██████
Sub total				██████
Less discount				██████
Total				██████
Plus VAT @ 20%				██████
Grand Total: £				██████

PLEASE NOTE: this is a quote only and total cost may change.



QUOTE

Date: 09/05/2022

For the attention
of : [REDACTED]

REF: TR2212 UK/SC/6919

Cost Code	Test	Quantity	Price	Total
Line 53	Water Vapour Permeability BS 7209	2	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Line 32	Dimensional Stability BS EN ISO 5077	2	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Line 34	Additional washes	5	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Line 31	Spray Rating BS 3424 Part 26 Method D	2	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Line 50	Resistance to water penetration BS 3424 Part 26 Method 29C	6	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Line 47	Ageing pretreatment	2	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Line 35	Flexing pretreatment	2	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Line 93	Abrasion pretreatment	80	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Line 93	Resistance to delamination	60	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Line 13	Colour fastness to washing BS EN ISO 105 A2S	2	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Line 12	Colour fastness to light standard 5	2	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Line 93	Colour performance requirements	73.5	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Line 93	Luminance factor	50	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Line 92	Postage	20	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
			Sub total	[REDACTED]
			Less discount	[REDACTED]
			Total	[REDACTED]
			Plus VAT @ 20%	[REDACTED]
			Grand Total:	[REDACTED]
			£	[REDACTED]

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