



DOSR/RN/2023-02 – Proof of Ordnance, Munitions, Armour and Explosives

Date: 21 Aug 2023

References:

- A. Defence OME Regulations, Regulation OME 114 – Gun Barrel Proof.
- B. DEF STAN 05-101 – Proof of Ordnance, Munitions, Armour and Explosives.

Purpose

1. This DRN provides guidance on acceptable means of compliance (AMC) against Reference A pending formal amendment of the associated Defence Code of Practice (DCOP) in DSA 03.OME.
2. Reference B is also in need of a review and update to reflect the recent DOSG transformation and the new organisations' (WTS and WESCOE) change in role. The update will aim to provide clarity on roles and responsibilities and the MOD requirements for Test Houses and control of the MOD Proof Mark. Until then, the following arrangements will be the AMC.

AMC for Proof Marking of Ordnance, Munitions, Armour and Explosives

3. In principle, Proof can be considered as a special type of test activity, similar to any other verification and validation/quality assurance activity performed by, or on behalf of, MOD. As such, it could be managed via a similar methodology to other test services provided to Project/Delivery Teams (P/DTs) by industry. Hence, given the status of reference A, a pragmatic approach towards managing Proof Marking for Ordnance for the immediate future will be:
 - a. Adherence by P/DTs to Reference B for establishing proof requirements and a Proof Schedule.
 - b. The SSR or equivalent should assess the suitability of any Test House to conduct proof including:
 - (1) Ensuring the Test House maintains appropriate accreditation to conduct test activities – minimum ISO 9001 and UKAS (or international equivalent) accreditation.
 - (2) Where necessary, conducting an audit of the contractor to assess their suitability to conduct proof.
 - c. The P/DT should control and influence the Proof Schedule to be followed by the appropriate contractor including:
 - (1) P/DT P/DT should reserve the right to have a Crown Witness in attendance for the conduct of the proof activity. Crown Witness should attend at least part of the proof activity to ensure that it is being conducted appropriately.
 - (2) Ensuring the Contractor delivers proof evidence/documentation to P/DT.
 - (3) The SSR or equivalent should review proof evidence and documentation to assess whether:



- (a) Proofing has been carried out appropriately in accordance with the Proof Schedule.
 - (b) Material under test met the requirements of the Proof Schedule and are suitable for Crown acceptance.
- d. Where the SSR or equivalent assesses that Proof requirements have been met for the materiel under test, the P/DT may authorise the contractor to mark the item of supply with MOD Proof Mark.
 - e. Contractor delivers item of supply to MOD.
4. WESCOE remains available to assist P/DTs through the provision of independent OME guidance and advice and can be tasked to do so via the WESCOE tasking system.

Conclusion

5. The MOD has instituted Proof requirements within Reference B that meet its legislated obligations to its employees and Serving personnel, however, with changes in organisational and regulatory constructs, Reference A is now out-dated and requires revision. This DOSR Notice outlines transitional arrangements to enable MOD to continue to support the safe acquisition of OME and related components.

Aim

6. This DRN is aimed at DE&S Delivery Teams – P/DT SSR or equivalent, Heads of Safety Centers and Inspectors of Explosives (UKStratCom, Navy, Army, RAF, DE&S).

Implementation

7. Effective 21 Aug 2023.

Queries

8. Any observations or requests for further guidance on the content of this DRN should be submitted by email to dsa-dosr-prq@mod.gov.uk.

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