



DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY

AMERICA'S COMBAT LOGISTICS SUPPORT AGENCY



COTS TACTICAL SHELTERS

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COTS Tactical Shelters

Issue:

- Newer DOD Standard Shelters are not supported with design controlled specifications/drawings... if designated by a vendor cage/part number then they are Commercial Off The Shelf (COTS)
- DLA's inability to support equated to being unable to satisfy the customer resulting in leadership pressure
- Commands regularly do not seek permission, but will either procure through GSA or locally
- A process to redirect customers for waivers on each acquisition is impossible to accomplish – staff see NSNs and are not necessarily familiar with the characteristics of each item. The requisition comes through the system for an approved NSN



COTS Tactical Shelters

Discussion:

- Recent issues with performance and possible safety problems with rigid wall containers currently purchased by DLA, have raised question concerning lack of procedures used to validate procurement of COTS items to fill customers requirements, although these items have been cataloged with NSNs and deemed approved for used
- “All units/users whom purchase this product are doing so at their own risk and cost to maintain as allocated funds have not been programmed to purchase or sustain these NSE commercial systems.”



COTS Tactical Shelters

Recommendation:

- If JOCOTAS wants to police proliferation of COTS tactical shelters OSD must publish clear policy on what DoD considers a suitable tactical shelter for use by the warfighter
- Evaluate for interoperability, compatibility, safety certified, approved for transport on military lift, etc.



Questions!

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