



Canada Border  
Services Agency

Agence des services  
frontaliers du Canada



# Concealment Firearm Holster

## Purchase Description

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File No: CBSA/ASFC-ARM-2014-07-020

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## PURCHASE DESCRIPTION CONCEALMENT FIREARM HOLSTER

### 1. SCOPE

This purchase description describes the requirements for materials, design, construction and inspection for the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) concealment firearm holster for the Beretta Px4 Storm Duty Firearm.

### 2. GENERAL DESIGN REQUIREMENTS

An analysis of holster requirements was undertaken by CBSA in 2008 and the following required holster attributes were identified based on the variety of CBSA operational environments:

- 2.1 Superior retention of the pistol in holster during altercations - i.e. weapon security
- 2.2 Simple function/ease of use
- 2.3 Easy maintenance
- 2.4 Compatibility with existing CBSA equipment & uniform
- 2.5 Good, long term durability

### 3. SEALED SAMPLES

A sealed sample, identified by the purchase description number noted in the contract, will be supplied to the contractor when available. This will constitute the standard in regards to any properties not identified within. Variation from the purchase description may appear in the sample in which case the purchase description shall govern unless otherwise identified on the sealed sample tag.

### 4. DETAILED DESCRIPTION

#### 4.1 SUPERIOR RETENTION

The most important and essential feature of the holster is superior retention of the pistol in holster during altercations. This is an absolute factor for public safety and required to meet our obligations to our officers under the Canada Labour Code. A high level of retention provides the best protection for our officers from disarming attempts.



The CBSA holster must be a level-3 retention security system holster with anti-grab. The three levels are described as follows:

- 4.1.1 primary strap secured by a dome fastener over the hammer of the pistol
- 4.1.2 hidden strap that prevents the pistol from being pulled backward in order to clear an ejection port block located in the front inside of the holster
- 4.1.3 third system, the aforementioned ejection port block

4.2 The CBSA concealment holster must also have the following features:

- 4.2.1 Injection molded paddle design that is highly concealable and sits close to body
- 4.2.2 Must fit CBSA's duty firearm concealment belt, purchase description # CBSA/ASFC-2012-09-112
- 4.2.3 There must be an ALS® (Automatic Locking System) that secures weapon when holstered
- 4.2.4 The hood guard must be a slim, compact design that will allow weapon to ride close to body for improved concealment
- 4.2.5 Simple straight up draw once all releases are deactivated
- 4.2.6 Plain black in color
- 4.2.7 Thermoplastic, molded holster design
- 4.2.8 Suede lining to help protect the gun's sights and finish
- 4.2.9 Formed, sturdy paddle design for comfort and easy on and off

#### 4.3 STANDARDIZED HOLSTER

Only one standardized concealment holster can be in use with the CBSA at one time. Multiple styles of holsters would not be permitted due to health and safety of CBSA officers. Use of the holster has to be instinctive rather than the result of a longer thought process; and retention/security properties of the holster cannot be lessened. The retention/access provided by the holster has to be equal for all CBSA armed officers across Canada.

The use of the same holster, as with any other 'security-type' holster, focuses heavily on the user developing suitable 'muscle memory' so that a weapon draw from the holster is quick and un-impeded. Most holsters utilize a straight upwards and/or forwards drawing motion. This is achieved with in-depth training and constant practice. CBSA armed officer are assessed or re-certified annually to ensure they can use their holster



properly. Having different holsters in use prevents the proper, full development of muscle memory and would place CBSA armed officers in an unsafe situation.

If the CBSA were to have more than one general duty holsters in use with different drawing methods, transition difficulties would be a permanent occurrence, and officer safety would be compromised. The situation could occur where an officer was trained to use one holster and then received a different holster as a replacement.

There is an absolute necessity that CBSA armed officers must be able to access other armed officers' firearms in crisis situations where they could not access or use their own (due to the pistol being lost, damaged or jammed). To minimize (but not eliminate) the danger should more than one holsters be in use at one time plus all the transition problems mentioned above, the CBSA would have to train all of its armed officers on any new holsters as well as the old one, regardless of which holster they were actually using.

For these reasons of CBSA armed officer health and safety, created by absolute operational necessities, the CBSA policy is that only one general duty holster be in use at one time. No incremental purchase of different holsters is possible. Either a holster is not adopted or it is adopted for all CBSA armed officers.

## 5 GUARENTEED SUPPLY

A guaranteed supply of safe, fitting, approved holsters is required as an operational requirement to ensure CBSA current and foreseeable needs are met during a period in which demand is expected to rise AND in the event the approved holster style becomes obsolete.

## 6 TECHINCAL INSPECTION

The contractor shall be responsible for the inspections necessary to demonstrate that the goods being supplied conform to the requirements of this purchase description.

The CBSA Technical Authority reserves the right to perform any inspection considered necessary to ensure the goods conform to the specified requirements. For the purpose of inspection, a portion of each delivery not exceeding two percent or two out of any number delivered fewer than 100 may be inspected that could destroy the goods. If found to be inferior or not in accordance with this specification, all goods so destroyed shall be replaced by others of proper quality at the expense of the contractor. The entire delivery may also be rejected if it is found that goods previously rejected due to non-repairable defects are redelivered for inspection.



## 7 DELIVERY, PACKING AND MARKING OF CONTAINERS

It is the responsibility of the contractor to ensure that goods are packaged in a suitable manner to be delivered in an undamaged condition. Any goods received in a damaged container will be returned to the contractor for replacement at full cost.

Packing and marking of shipping containers shall be as specified in the invitation to tender.

A packing slip shall be enclosed showing the contents of each shipment.

The contractor shall also identify clearly on the outside of each package (box) the following items:

- Name and description of article
- Handedness
- Material Master Number
- Quantity of each size contained in the box
- Contract Number