



Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Gendarmerie royale du Canada

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Annex B

Purchase Description

Padded Duty Belt

This document has 7 pages.

This document was created in English.

The document is available in English and French.

English/Anglais

Français/French

1 Document Scope

- 1.1 This Purchase Description governs the manufacture and inspection of the Belt, Duty, Padded. The specific items covered under this purchase description will have stock names and numbers applied upon issuance of the Standing Offer.
- i. ## – Belt, Duty, Padded
 - ii. ## – Belt, Duty, Padded, Replacement Buckle (if applicable)
 - iii. ## – Belt, Duty, Padded, Removable Support (if applicable)
- 1.2 This purchase description, or other information issued in connection therewith, may only be used for specific enquiries, solicitations, or orders placed on behalf of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.
- 1.3 This purchase description supersedes all previous purchase descriptions for the RCMP Belt, Duty, Padded.
- 1.4 This purchase description has been translated into French from this original English language document.

2 Applicable Documents

- 2.1 No additional publications are applicable to this Purchase Description.

3 Definitions

- 3.1 In specifying the different requirements, distinct terms are used. They are defined as follows:
- 3.1.1 **Mandatory Requirements** – A criterion that must be met to be in accordance with the technical requirement. The words “must” and “mandatory” indicate a mandatory requirement.
- 3.1.2 **Preferred Criterion** – A criterion with significant operational value. The words “should” or “preferred” indicate a preference. A preferred criterion is not mandatory.
- 3.1.3 **Optional Criterion** – A criterion that is permissive or discretionary. The word “may” indicates an option. Optional criteria is not mandatory.

4 Terminology

4.1 Terminology

For the purposes of this Purchase Description, the following definitions apply:

- 4.1.1 **Belt Gap** – The space at the front of the duty belt that occurs between the two ends of the padding in order to accommodate the belt buckle. Belt Gaps must not exceed 6” when the duty belt has been sized in accordance with the manufacturer’s sizing guide.
- 4.1.2 **Low Profile Buckle** – A buckle with nondescript features. A low profile buckle must be similar to the colour of the belt that it is attached to, and not include any decorations or features that visually contrast it from the belt. Minor components, such as tabs or prongs, that do not make up the majority of the visible surface area of the buckle may have an alternative metallic finish.
- 4.1.3 **Replaceable Buckle** – A buckle that can be completely removed and securely reattached to a belt without the use of stitching.
- 4.1.4 **Sizing Guide** – A physical guide containing size and measurement information to assist users in determining their belt size. Sizing guides contain written instructions, and/or diagrams that include written explanations.
- 4.1.5 **Two Step Locking Mechanism Buckle** – A buckle that requires the simultaneous triggering of two separate mechanisms in order to undo the buckle. For example, a buckle that requires the tabs to be squeezed at the same time that a button on the buckle is pressed would meet this requirement. A buckle that has two tabs that lock independently of one another would also meet this requirement.

5 Requirements

5.1 Intended Use

The Padded Duty Belt is an integral piece of equipment individually issued to RCMP officers. The Padded Duty Belt is intended to support the weight of intervention tools carried in pouches and the weight of other equipment attached to it. The Padded Duty Belt is intended as one of several options of duty belt that could potentially satisfy a members’ individual ergonomic requirements.

5.2 General

- 5.2.1 **Quality** – The item covered by this purchase description must be free from design, material and manufacturing defects that may affect its safety, appearance, functionality, or serviceability.
- 5.2.2 **Durability** – Padded Duty Belts must withstand daily use and the rigours of police duties. The Padded Duty Belt has a life expectancy of four years.
- 5.2.3 **Ergonomic Requirements** – Padded Duty Belts, through the use of padding, must distribute the weights of belt-mounted tools, provide enough flexibility to accommodate a

complete range of motion for all body types, and help prevent the development of long-term injury.

- 5.2.4 **Environmental Requirements** – Padded Duty Belts are exposed to a wide variety of environmental factors including UV and moisture. The operational temperature range for the belt is -40°C to 40°C.
- 5.2.5 **Warranty** – Padded Duty Belts must come with a minimum one year warranty for material and manufacturing defects.
- 5.2.6 **Packaging, Marking and Labelling** – The pieces that are used to form the Padded Duty Belt must be packaged separately and will be stocked separately. Belts that offer replaceable pieces must allow for those pieces to be ordered individually. The manufacturer must provide a list of all available replacement pieces for the belt. Belt pieces must be marked with the size, RCMP stock number, date of manufacture, and appropriate cleaning and care information. If the cleaning and care instructions are the same for all pieces of the Padded Duty Belt, the information may be provided on one of the pieces only. All information must be provided in both English and French.

5.3 **Operational Requirements**

- 5.3.1 **Interoperability** – The Padded Duty Belt must be compatible with RCMP issued suspenders, as well as pouches and equipment listed in para. 5.3.1.1.

5.3.1.1 **Required Pouches & Equipment**

- a) Pistol Holster
- b) Double Magazine Pouch
- c) Holder, Defensive Spray
- d) Handcuff Pouch
- e) Radio
- f) Flashlight Holster
- g) Baton Holder

5.4 **Design**

The design of the Padded Duty Belt must, at minimum, consist of a belt which encircles the entire waist and integrates with additional components, such as the padding and any additional belt(s) that encircle the entire waist. Padded components may be incorporated into one of the belts, or provided as a separate piece. Belts which secure to the body through a friction fit are acceptable. The belt pieces must interact with one another and all components via either hook and loop tape, or threading. The pouches must be securable to the belt through either hook and loop tape, or threading. The use of MOLLE (either webbing or laser cut) to achieve this is acceptable.

The Padded Duty Belt must have sufficient strength to support heavier equipment, such as the pistol and pistol holster, radio and radio holster, baton and baton holder, and conducted energy weapon (CEW) and CEW holster without deforming (such as sagging or twisting). Support must be provided over the hip region of the belt for the pistol and pistol holster, and

must be compatible for right and left handed positioning within the same belt. The use of inserts or additional pieces to create this support are acceptable. If additional pieces are required for this support, then the pieces must be included with the belt piece where pouches and equipment are intended to be attached. Additional support pieces must allow the wearer to change their location on the belt in order to support heavier equipment. The complete Padded Duty Belt, including additional pieces, must not exceed eight individual components.

- 5.4.1 **Closure Mechanisms** – The Padded Duty Belt must be fully securable around the waist. The piece which secures the belt around the waist must incorporate a low profile, two-step locking mechanism buckle as the only closure mechanism. The buckle must not exceed 3” in width, and must have a life expectancy equal to that of the Padded Duty Belt. The front gap must be, at minimum, 3” to a maximum of 6” in order to accommodate the buckle. Belts with replaceable buckles are preferred. If additional belt pieces secure completely around the waist, their closure mechanisms must be designed to minimize bulk. There must be a method to secure excess materials that result from tightening the belt.
- 5.4.2 **Colour and Finish** – All components of the Padded Duty Belt must be black in colour, unless otherwise specified. Padded Duty Belts with added patterns, such as basket weave or other patterns that are printed/embossed do not meet the requirement. Textures which result from weaving and are inherent to the construction of the material are acceptable.
- 5.4.3 **Size and Adjustability** – The size of the Padded Duty Belt must be indicated numerically. The pieces of the Padded Duty Belt must be sized proportionally in relation to the belt gap. The Padded Duty Belt must be available in a range of waist sizes, from 26” – 56”, with consistent increments between each size. The increments between sizes must not exceed 5”. The size of each belt must be adjustable via a mechanism that can be incrementally changed and set within the adjustment range. For example, for a 2” range, a size 26 must be adjustable either down to 24”, or up to 28”, or down to 25” and up to 27”. A Sizing Guide must be provided by the manufacturer detailing how to measure and select the appropriate size of Padded Duty Belt.
- 5.4.4 **Dimensions** – The width of all belts and components must not exceed 3”.
- 5.4.5 **Cleaning** – At minimum, the Padded Duty Belt must be able to be spot cleaned with a damp cloth. If additional cleaning methods are applicable, then the manufacturer must provide cleaning instructions.
- 5.4.6 **Performance** – The Padded Duty Belt must be easy to don and doff. The belt must provide the user with a perceivable level of comfort by reducing areas of high pressure, pinching, and chafing through the use of padding. The Padded Duty Belt must be securable so there is minimal movement during regular policing activities, including drawing and holstering intervention equipment. The belt must be comfortable to wear while sitting in a patrol vehicle, sitting in an office chair, standing, walking, running, and during general movement.
- 5.4.7 **Material Performance**

5.4.7.1 **Colorfastness** – Materials must be colourfast to moisture and perspiration for the expected life of the Padded Duty Belt.

5.4.7.2 **UV-Resistance** – Materials must resist degradation, including discolouration, under prolonged UV exposure for the expected life of the Padded Duty Belt.

5.4.8 **Materials**

Padded Duty Belts must be constructed from synthetic materials. Belts constructed from leather do not meet this requirement.

5.4.8.1 **Foam** – If foam is used, it must be closed cell to prevent absorption of moisture. Foam must be hypoallergenic and must not abrade or peel during use. Foam must be free from substances that accelerate ageing or deterioration and must not contain natural or styrene-butadiene rubber (SBR) or other harmful components.

5.4.8.2 **Plastic** – If plastic components are used, all plastic must be constructed from durable, shatter-resistant polymers.

5.4.8.3 **Metal** – If metals are used, they must be corrosion-resistant to moisture and humidity. Where coatings are used on high impact or high abrasion areas, underlying materials must be corrosion-resistant. All metals must be black in colour, unless otherwise specified, with a non-reflective, durable finish.