

**Abstract of Patent**

A load carriage connector and system for rapid mounting and demounting of a user-carried load. The connector utilizes two mating halves comprising a male connector half and a female connector half. The connector is configured to allow mating under various angles of approach, allowing the user to reliably couple the system even under conditions in which the user is unable to view the orientation of the connectors. Additionally, the configuration of the connector system allows the user to quickly and efficiently decouple the connector halves, even while under tensile or shear load.

The Department of the Air Force may grant the prospective license unless a timely objection is received that sufficiently shows the grant of the license would be inconsistent with the Bayh-Dole Act or implementing regulations. A competing application for a patent license agreement, completed in compliance with 37 CFR 404.8 and received by the Air Force within the period for timely objections, will be treated as an objection and may be considered as an alternative to the proposed license.

**Tommy W. Lee,**

*Acting Air Force Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2023-18678 Filed 8-29-23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 5001-10-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE****Defense Acquisition Regulations System**

[Docket DARS-2023-0020; OMB Control Number 0750-0002]

**Information Collection; Covered Defense Telecommunications Equipment or Services**

**AGENCY:** Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Defense Acquisition Regulations System has submitted to OMB for clearance, the following proposal for extension of a collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to all comments received by September 29, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this

notice to <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

You may also submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by the following method: Federal eRulemaking Portal: <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Angela Duncan, 571-372-7574, or [whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil](mailto:whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title and OMB Number:* Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS); DFARS Part 204, Covered Defense Telecommunications Equipment or Services; OMB Control Number 0750-0002.

*Affected Public:* Businesses or other for-profit and not-for-profit entities.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Required to obtain or retain benefits.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Number of Respondents:* 3,446.

*Annual Responses:* 172,320.

*Annual Response Burden Hours:* 62,085.

*Needs and Uses:* The collection of information is necessary to protect against foreign interference with DoD telecommunications, which could jeopardize our military communications, the lives of our warfighters, and our national security. The collection of information is essential to the mission of the agencies to ensure DoD does not purchase prohibited equipment, systems, and services, and can respond appropriately if any such purchases are not identified until after delivery or use.

This requirement supports implementation of section 1656(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2018. Section 1656 prohibits DoD from procuring or obtaining, or extending or renewing a contract to procure or obtain, any equipment, system, or service to carry out the nuclear deterrence mission and homeland defense mission that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as a part of any system.

This requirement is implemented in the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) through the provision at 252.204-7017, Prohibition on the Acquisition of Covered Defense Telecommunications Equipment or Services—Representation, and the clause at 252.204-7018,

Prohibition on Acquisition of Covered Defense Telecommunications Equipment or Services.

This clearance covers the following requirements:

- DFARS 252.204-7017 requires that if an offeror provides an affirmative representation under the provision at 252.204-7016, Covered Defense Telecommunications Equipment or Services—Representation, that offeror is required to represent whether it will or will not provide under the contract covered defense telecommunications equipment or services.

- DFARS 252.204-7018 requires contractors to report covered telecommunications equipment, systems, and services identified during performance of a contract.

*DoD Clearance Officer:* Ms. Angela Duncan. Requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Ms. Duncan at [whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil](mailto:whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil).

**Jennifer D. Johnson,**

*Editor/Publisher, Defense Acquisition Regulations System.*

[FR Doc. 2023-18633 Filed 8-29-23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 5001-06-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE****Office of the Secretary****Renewal of Department of Defense Federal Advisory Committees—Defense Policy Board**

**AGENCY:** Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** Renewal of Federal Advisory Committee meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The DoD is publishing this notice to announce that it is renewing the Defense Policy Board (DPB).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jim Freeman, DoD Advisory Committee Management Officer, 703-692-5952.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The DoD is renewing the DPB in accordance with chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code (U.S.C.) (commonly known as the “Federal Advisory Committee Act” or “FACA”) and 41 CFR 102-3.50(d). The charter and contact information for the DPB’s Designated Federal Officer (DFO) are found at <https://www.facadatabase.gov/FACA/apex/FACAPublicAgencyNavigation>.

The DPB provides the Secretary of Defense and the Deputy Secretary of Defense (“the DoD Appointing Authority”) independent advice and recommendations on matters concerning defense policy and national security issues. Specifically, the DPB

will focus on: (a) issues central to strategic DoD planning; (b) policy implications of U.S. force structure and modernization on DoD's ability to execute U.S. defense strategy; (c) U.S. regional defense policies; and (d) other defense policy and national security issues of special interest to the DoD raised by the DoD Appointing Authority, or the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy as the DPB's Sponsor.

The DPB shall be composed of not more than 20 members who have distinguished backgrounds in defense and national security affairs. These members will come from varied backgrounds including prior government or military service, multinational corporations, academia, or other non-government organizations. Individual members will be appointed according to DoD policy and procedures, and serve a term of service of one-to-four years with annual renewals. One member will be appointed as Chair of the DPB. No member, unless approved according to DoD policy and procedures, may serve more than two consecutive terms of service on the DPB, or serve on more than two DoD Federal advisory committees at one time.

Individual members are appointed according to DoD policy and procedures, and serve a term of service of one-to-four years with annual renewals. One member will be appointed as Chair of the DPB. No member, unless approved according to DoD policy and procedures, may serve more than two consecutive terms of service on the DPB, or serve on more than two DoD Federal advisory committees at one time.

DPB members who are not full-time or permanent part-time Federal civilian officers or employees, or active duty members of the Uniformed Services, are appointed as experts or consultants, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3109, to serve as special government employee members. DPB members who are full-time or permanent part-time Federal civilian officers or employees, or active duty members of the Uniformed Services are appointed pursuant to 41 CFR 102-3.130(a), to serve as regular government employee members.

All DPB members are appointed to provide advice based on their best judgment without representing any particular point of view and in a manner that is free from conflict of interest. Except for reimbursement of official DPB-related travel and per diem, members serve without compensation.

The public or interested organizations may submit written statements about the DPB's mission and functions.

Written statements may be submitted at any time or in response to the stated agenda of planned meeting of the DPB. All written statements shall be submitted to the DFO for the DPB using the link provided in this **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section, and this individual will ensure that the written statements are provided to the membership for their consideration.

Dated: August 24, 2023.

**Aaron T. Siegel,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 2023-18770 Filed 8-29-23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 5001-06-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Navy

#### Certificate of Alternate Compliance for USS Kingsville (LCS 36)

**AGENCY:** Department of the Navy (DoN), Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** Notice of issuance of Certificate of Alternate Compliance.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Navy hereby announces that a Certificate of Alternate Compliance has been issued for USS *Kingsville* (LCS 36). Due to the special construction and purpose of this vessel, the Admiralty Counsel of the Navy has determined it is a vessel of the Navy which, due to its special construction and purpose, cannot comply fully with the navigation lights provisions of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972 (72 COLREGS) without interfering with its special function as a naval ship. The intended effect of this notice is to warn mariners in waters where 72 COLREGS apply.

**DATES:** This Certificate of Alternate Compliance is effective August 30, 2023 and is applicable beginning August 23, 2023.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lieutenant Ryan Feingold, JAGC, U.S. Navy, Admiralty Attorney, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Admiralty and Claims Division (Code 15), 1322 Patterson Ave SE, Suite 3000, Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5066, 202-685-5075, or [admiralty@navy.mil](mailto:admiralty@navy.mil).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Background and Purpose.

Executive Order (E.O.) 11964 of January 19, 1977 and 33 U.S.C. 1605 provide that the requirements of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972 (72 COLREGS), as to the number, position, range, or arc of visibility of lights or shapes, as well

as to the disposition and characteristics of sound-signaling appliances, shall not apply to a vessel or class of vessels of the Navy where the Secretary of the Navy shall find and certify that, by reason of special construction or purpose, it is not possible for such vessel(s) to comply fully with the provisions without interfering with the special function of the vessel(s). Notice of issuance of a Certificate of Alternate Compliance must be made in the **Federal Register**.

In accordance with 33 U.S.C. 1605, the Admiralty Counsel of the Navy, under authority delegated by the Secretary of the Navy, hereby finds and certifies that USS *Kingsville* (LCS 36) is a vessel of special construction or purpose, and that, with respect to the position of the following navigational lights, it is not possible to comply fully with the requirements of the provisions enumerated in the 72 COLREGS without interfering with the special function of the vessel: Annex I, paragraph 2(a)(i) pertaining to the height of the forward masthead light; Annex I, paragraph 3(a) pertaining to the location of the forward quarter of the ship; Annex I, paragraph 2(f)(i) pertaining to obstructions of the aft masthead light; Annex I, paragraph 3(a) pertaining to the horizontal separation of the masthead lights; Annex I, Paragraph 2(f)(ii) and Annex I, Paragraph 3(c) pertaining to the vertical and horizontal position of the task lights in relation to the masthead lights; Annex I, Paragraph 9(b) pertaining to the degree of obstruction of the task lights.

The Admiralty Counsel of the Navy further finds and certifies that these navigational lights are in closest possible compliance with the applicable provision of the 72 COLREGS.

*Authority:* 33 U.S.C. 1605(c), E.O. 11964.

Dated: August 25, 2023.

**K.K. Ramsey,**

*Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Judge Advocate General, U. S. Navy.*

[FR Doc. 2023-18732 Filed 8-29-23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3810-FF-P**