



DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY
DEFENSE SUPPLY CENTER, COLUMBUS
POST OFFICE BOX 3990
COLUMBUS, OH 43216-5000

IN REPLY
REFER TO

DSCC-VQE-98-1453 (Mr. Dhrkop/614-692-0624/jed)

NOV 12 1998

SUBJECT: Base Material Requirements for QPL/QML Printed Boards after
Cancellation of MIL-S-13949

QPL-55110 / QPL-50884 DISTRIBUTION

During the last few months we have received numerous inquiries from Qualified Products List (QPL) and Qualified Manufacturers List (QML) manufacturers regarding the impact of the upcoming cancellation of MIL-S-13949. MIL-S-13949 is the Department of Defense (DoD) specification for base materials used to control rigid laminates and prepregs. MIL-S-13949 specifies a methodology to ensure base materials meet a specified and verified level of performance, quality, and reliability. Because of the impact the cancellations of MIL-S-13949 and QPL-13949 will have on the way QPL printed board manufacturers obtain base materials, we offer the following guidance.

Prior to the cancellation of QPL-13949 the printed board specification requirement for material inspection was met through a certificate of conformance from the base material supplier that the base material met all the MIL-S-13949 requirements. However, after MIL-S-13949 is cancelled on November 30, 1998, base material suppliers can no longer mark, certify, or advertise that their materials meet the MIL-S-13949 requirements. The MIL-S-13949 base material suppliers' program for qualification data, quality conformance inspection, and quality system controls will no longer be verified and monitored by DSCC-VQE. Therefore, printed board manufacturers will not be able to obtain base materials certified to all of the requirements of MIL-S-13949 after the date of cancellation of the specification unless it was manufactured, tested, marked, and certified prior to November 30, 1998.

If MIL-S-13949 is specified in the master drawing, the QPL printed board manufacturer may request the customer change the base material specification requirement. This can be accomplished by revising the master drawing or changing an appropriate higher level procurement documents (contract, etc.) as deemed appropriate by the military program office and/or procurement activity instruction. If the base material requirement can not be changed, the QPL/QML printed board manufacturers must determine what base material requirements their customer expects them to meet. Regardless of which requirements the customers states, it is the responsibility of the QPL/QML printed board manufacturer to use base materials that will meet the performance requirements of the DoD printed board specification (i.e. all printed board tests must pass regardless of what base material is used).

During future audits of QPL printed board manufacturers DSCC-VQE will look for objective evidence that customer specified base material requirements are met. This will include a review of vendor approval programs and a review of QPL printed board production lot records to assure the base materials used meets the master drawings. Manufacturers may use test data, in-line process controls, supplier quality system surveys, traceability records, or any



combinations to verify the base material meets the customers requirements. Evidence of compliance must be maintained for three years and made available for DSCC-VQE review upon request. DSCC-VQE may request a printed board manufacturer's procedures for material inspection if deemed necessary.

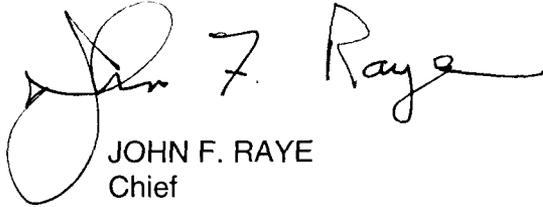
The qualification listings on QPL-55110 and QPL-50884 will not be affected by the cancellation of MIL-S-13949. In fact, MIL-PRF-55110 revision F and the upcoming MIL-PRF-50884C amendment 5 are performance specifications and therefore do not require the use of MIL-S-13949. The base material designators will remain as listed in the front of QPL-55110 for reference purposes (i.e. GF, GI, etc.). Even though the qualification test specimen master drawings specified in MIL-PRF-55110 and MIL-P-50884 call out MIL-S-13949, DSCC will and has allowed the manufacturer flexibility to use any base material that will meet the qualification performance requirements. When QPL manufacturers apply for authorization to conduct qualification testing, they must indicate the specific base material used in Section I of the DSCC Form 19W. Base materials used for qualification test specimens must still enable the specimens to meet the performance requirements of the printed board specification.

Printed board manufacturers listed on MIL-PRF-31032 who encounter drawings with MIL-S-13949 referenced must take action as determined by their technical review board.

This letter is issued based on our authority to administer the military qualification program. It should be understood that this letter does not in any way relieve that original equipment manufacturer from following the appropriate System Program Office (SPO) direction and/or other contractual documents.

If you have any questions please call your DSCC-VQE point of contact (see enclosed list) or call Mr. Joe Dihrkop, phone 614-692-0624, fax 614-693-1659, or email joseph_dihrkop@dsc.dla.mil.

Sincerely,



JOHN F. RAYE
Chief
Electronic Devices Team

Encl.

Printed Wiring Boards (Rigid & Flexible), QPL-55110 & QPL-50884 (FSC 5998)

55110/50884 Primary Contacts

Name	Phone Number	e-mail address	Contact for ...
Joe Dhrkop (lead)	(614) 692-0624	joseph_dhrkop@dsc.dla.mil	companies beginning with Cj+, E, Pq+, R
Lee Isom	(614) 692-0625	lee_isom@dsc.dla.mil	companies beginning with Ci-, G, M, Q
Todd Johnson	(614) 692-0626	joseph_johnson@dsc.dla.mil	foreign companies
Ed Justus	(614) 692-0616	edward_justus@dsc.dla.mil	companies beginning with B, Pp-, W, X, Y, Z, Labs
Ray Kolonchuk	(614) 692-0621	raymond_kolonchuk@dsc.dla.mil	companies beginning with D, K, L, N, T
Lowell Sherman	(614) 692-0627	roger_sherman@dsc.dla.mil	companies beginning with A, J, O, S
Bill Werman	(614) 692-0631	bill_werman@dsc.dla.mil	companies beginning with F, H, I, U, V

Unit-wide fax number: (614) 692-6943 or (614) 692-6942