



**Newport News
Shipbuilding**

August 6, 2014

Subject: Alert Regarding Catalog Part Pressure Ratings

Dear Valued Supplier,

The purpose of this letter is to notify our suppliers that it is critical that pressure-containing parts specified by the drawing or contract ordering data meet all requirements. NNS has noted instances where commercial catalogs do not explicitly state the actual pressure ratings of the pressure-containing parts. Because the catalogs were unclear on pressure containing abilities, NNS ordered a part to a higher pressure rating than the catalog part was actually designed for. This part was installed in a system that, upon discovery of the issue, had to be quarantined and shut down until the part could be replaced with an appropriate part for the pressure rating of that system. Continued use of the part in this system could have resulted in failure and injury to personnel. As a supplier of product intended for use aboard a United States Navy nuclear powered submarine or aircraft carrier, it is imperative that all applicable contract requirements be met.

Take note of the highlighted section below seen in NNS Purchase Orders for pressure containing parts.

Noun Name: THREADPIECE
Revision Level: 02
Material Group: STD
Type: UNION
Modifier: SB
Material: CUNI 70:30
Size: 0.500 NOM
Unit Weight: 0
Special Conditions: 1.750-12UN
Pressure Rating: 6000 PSI

Newport News Shipbuilding requests suppliers to be aware of this pressure rating requirement when supplying pressure containing parts, especially when commercial catalog parts are being ordered. Caution should be taken during contract review and material ordering to ensure that all contract requirements are being specified and verified. Any questions relating to unclear drawing or contract requirements should be forwarded to the procuring activity on a Vendor Information Request (VIR) for resolution or ordering data clarification. If the commercial catalog part being ordered does not meet the pressure rating required in the NNS order, a VIR must be submitted every time.

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Suppliers should review their internal procedures and controls to ensure that the material being supplied is in strict accordance with all contract requirements. If it is found that nonconforming parts have been previously shipped, it is requested that you notify your customer as soon as possible so that corrective action can be taken.

Please share this Lesson Learned letter with your sub-tier suppliers. Any questions concerning the above can be forwarded to Aaron Loehr, Newport News Shipbuilding Material Engineering at (757) 380-3463 or E-mail Aaron.J.Loehr@hii-nns.com.

Sincerely,

Nanda Itigual for Rudie Simpson 8/6/14

Rudie L. Simpson
Manager, Material Engineering & Supplier Technical Services

Alma Martinez Fallon

Alma Martinez Fallon
Director, Supply Chain Procurement