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	Title: Supplier Quality Requirements		


Effective Date: May 1, 2025

Please review these requirements carefully. Not all requirements are applicable to each purchase order, if there are any requirements that are not applicable to your company and/or products you are supplying to Caton Connector, please contact the buyer listed on the purchase order.

1. **Purchase Order Terms and Conditions:** Supplier must review Purchase Order Terms and Conditions before accepting each purchase order. Purchase Order Terms and Conditions can be found on the Caton website.
2. **Quality Management System:** Supplier shall provide and maintain a quality system that compiles with the requirements of ISO9001 or AS9100D, unless otherwise directed by Caton. Immediate notification is required in case of non-compliance to Quality Management System Requirements, e.g. loss of third party certification.
3. **Certificate of Conformance (C of C):** A certificate of conformance shall accompany each shipment signed by its Quality Assurance Manager, or authorized designee, stating the product supplied is in full conformance with all physical configuration and functional test specifications; that all raw material used conforms to applicable specifications. Inspection and test data, physical and chemical analysis, and in-process inspection data are on file subject to review by Caton upon request. The certificate of conformance shall be legible and include: Caton Purchase Order number, part number, and revision letter (unless otherwise specified on the purchase order), quantity and if applicable, serial numbers. Caton Job Order number and the mill heat number when seller supplied material, at a minimum. When multiple lots of material are used in completing a shipment, parts shall not be mixed, and all material lot numbers or mill heat numbers shall be reported. When processing is performed against a Caton job order, parts shall not be mixed, and traceability shall be maintained to the work order. Material or process specifications Manufacturer's name, address, Country of Origin, and Date.
4. **Documentation:** Caton will not accept items delivered under the purchase order if the seller fails to submit certifications or other documentation specified in the purchase order.
5. **Defense Priorities & Allocations System (DPAS):** If the product purchased is for a government contract it will be noted on the purchase order along with the DPAS rating. Suppliers must follow all provisions listed of the Defense Priorities and Allocation System regulation (15 CFR 700).
6. **Approved Inspection Plans:** When requested, sellers shall submit a detailed inspection plan to Caton Facility for approval before manufacturing begins. Seller inspection shall be in accordance with the Caton approved inspection plan for the part number ordered.

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7. **Calibration:** A system for the maintenance and calibration of inspection, measuring, and test equipment shall be maintained. ANSI/NCSL Z540-1 applicable to calibration activities. Acceptable alternative: MIL-STD-45662A "Calibration System Requirements" All calibration standards must be traceable back to NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology) and the NIST test number shall be included on the certificate of conformance. If any measuring equipment is found to be out of tolerance, "As Found, As Left" data shall be included.
8. **Identification and Control of Product:** Caton may specify whether lot control or serial number control is required. Requirements will be noted on Caton drawing, purchasing specifications, or purchase order. If not listed, seller shall contract buyer listed on purchase order for direction.
9. **Caton Supplied Material:** When Caton supplies any material for seller, the seller's system must provide the following: examination upon receipt for transit damage, verification of quantity, storage against damage, improper use or disposition. The seller must furnish certification that the parts used were those furnished by the buyer and no un-authorized substitution was made.
10. **Special Process Approval:** Heat treating, welding, electroplating, laser cutting, EDM, ECM, Non-Destructive Testing, etc. are considered special processes and require approval by Caton prior to use. The Certificate of Conformance shall include the specification number and revision of all special processing performed. Special processes, once approved, may not be changed without Caton approval of the changes.
11. **Copy Exact:** If noted on the purchase order, Copy Exact requirements must be imposed and flowed down to sub-tier suppliers.
12. **NADCAP:** Suppliers, including sub-tier suppliers, performing welding/brazing, non-destructive testing, heat treating, plating and chemical finishing, or painting must be Nadcap accredited.
13. **Prohibition of Pure Tin:** Unless otherwise stated in the purchase order, "the seller shall not use Pure Tin (Sn) Plated finished, defined as tin plating composed of less than 3 percent Lead (Pb)".
14. **Inspection Sheets and Test Reports:** With each shipment the seller shall submit inspection reports, data sheets, test reports, and other related data as applicable. Reports shall be identified with the applicable drawing/ specification number, revision, Caton Purchase Order number, and the Seller's lot identification number.

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- Inspection Reports shall cover all physical and dimensional characteristics for the item as called out on the drawing, or in the applicable specification. The Seller shall report the actual dimensions of each part inspected. The inspection results shall be traceable by serial number or other identification method to the actual part inspected.
- Inspection Reports shall cover all physical and dimensional characteristics for the item as called out on the drawing, or in the applicable specification. The Seller shall report the dimensional range and average of parts inspected. The inspection results shall be traceable to the lot of parts inspected.
- Inspection reports shall list the physical and dimensional characteristics of the items. Sample inspection shall be performed to verify critical dimensional characteristics of the lot of parts are within drawing specification limits. Actual dimensions do not have to be reported except where specific dimensions are requested.
- Test reports for special tests such as vibration, shock, rain, sand and dust, pressure, environmental, EMI, ATP and others shall be supplied by the seller.
- Destructive Testing Analysis (DTA) report is required. The Seller is to permanently identify the parts that have gone through DTA and are no longer suitable for intended use. The tested parts shall be delivered to Caton.
- NOTE: Out of tolerance dimensions shall be identified on an inspection report. The Seller shall not deliver parts that are out of tolerance to Caton without approval from Caton.

15. Preservation and Packaging: Unless special packaging requirements are referenced in the Purchase Order, the seller shall use best commercial practices for preservation and packaging of articles supplied to Caton and shall identify each package with the Purchase Order number, date shipped and packing sheet number.

- Seller shall ensure that there are no foreign objects received in packaging and packaging containers. Note: Foreign objects include staples, foam peanuts, and Styrofoam which may be used in packaging.
- Seller shall not use packaging material that may leave residue from the packaging material on the parts as a result of packing or unpacking the product.


16. First Article Inspection (FAI): A FAI may be required if/when: product is run for the first time in production, there is a design change, materials or source of supply has been changed, 2+ years since last production run, or a change in the process, tool, or manufacturing location. FAI shall be performed in accordance with AS9102 or equivalent.

17. Source Inspection: Source Inspection shall be conducted by Caton at the Seller's facility or where designated in the Purchase Order prior to shipment. Inspection/test of the items shall be performed by the Seller and shall be subjected to witness by Caton. Caton shall elect to

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do 100% or sample of the units. If sample is elected, the sample will be selected by Caton Engineering. Seller shall have available and present upon request, documented evidence of in-process and/or final inspection/test data. Required documentation for shipment must be completed and signed by its Quality Assurance Manager, or authorized designee, and available for Caton review.

- 18. Request for Deviation/Waiver:** Supplier must notify Caton of any change in the manufacturing process, materials, design, drawing conflict, product availability/obsolescence or any other alteration to the product Caton is purchasing. Any request for change/deviation must be submitted on Seller Change Request Form (F-059) which can be found on the Caton website. 90 days' notice for any change request is required unless otherwise agreed upon. No change or repair may be made without Caton's approval. Notification for product obsolescence/end of life must be made 12 months before the obsolescence/end of life and seller must allow buyer to make a last time buy.
- 19. Non-Conforming Material:** Acceptance of a purchase order obligates the seller to perform, upon request, a Corrective Action investigation when discrepant material is received at Caton. A written report shall be furnished within 30 days of issue or buyer may withhold payment for the associated purchase order until such CAR is received. Material found to be non-conforming must be submitted to Caton for review and approval before shipment.
- 20. Right of Access by Organization:** Caton, its customers, and/or regulatory authority representatives shall have the right of access to facilities involved in the execution of the Purchase order to review quality management system documentation, any applicable records, witness and/or conduct inspections and tests, review corrective action activities and other records that reflect on hardware or service quality, and/or to evaluate sellers' capability to comply with contractual requirements.
- 21. Export/Import Controls (ITAR):** Seller must control the disclosure of, and access to, technical data, information, and other items including hardware received under this purchase order in accordance with U.S. export control laws and regulations, including but not limited to the International Traffic in Arms (ITAR) and the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS), and Export Administration Regulations. Contact Caton Purchasing for clarification or applicability if necessary.
- 22. Cyber Security:** Supplier must establish and maintain a cyber security program in accordance with NIST standards and comply with DFARS 252.204-7012, 7019, 7020, and 7021. Supplier must notify Caton if the event of any data breach and confirm if any Caton data was affected.

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- 23. RoHS, REACH, Conflict Materials:** Supplier must furnish reports regarding RoHS, REACH, and Conflict Materials if required. Caton buyer will contact Supplier if documents are needed.
- 24. Counterfeit Parts:** Supplier shall ensure that controls are in place to reduce and mitigate the risk of counterfeit components and/or assemblies from Caton in compliance of AS5553 and their Quality Management System.
- 25. Foreign Object Damage Protection (FOD):** Supplier shall establish and maintain an effective FOD prevention program. FOD Prevention Program shall be available for review and audit upon request by Caton and/or its customers.
- 26. Performance Monitoring:** On-Time-Delivery, quality, and other relevant performance metrics are monitored by Caton. This information is used to rate suppliers and measure against established vendor standards.
- 27. Organization Awareness:** Supplier must ensure all associates are aware of their contribution to product conformity, product safety, and the importance of ethical behaviors.
- 28. Sub-Tier Suppliers:** Supplier shall flow down requirements to their suppliers as necessary. Supplier shall verify that their suppliers have a quality system in place to handle requirements set forth by Caton.
- 29. Supplier Code of Conduct:** Supplier must comply with Supplier Code of Conduct which can be found at www.caton.com.