



March 6, 2024

Customer Notification

Subject: Laser Marking of M-Series Product vs Ink Marking (Marking on shells)

As part of AirBorn's continual improvement efforts, we have recently qualified the use of a new "laser marking" technology to mark our M Series Micro-D Connectors and MIL-DTL-83513 connector product. Currently, "ink marking" is used to mark products per MIL-DTL-83513 requirements. To achieve qualification, a plan was drafted and approved by the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) - test report number 83513-6761-23. Recently, we successfully completed the qualification plan and are now ready to implement the new marking process which has been approved to be used on AirBorn QPL'd MIL-DTL-83513 products listed below Finish (class M):

- C - Electrodeposited Cadmium per SAE AMS-QQ-P-416, Type II, Class 3
- K- Zinc Nickel Alloy per ASTM B841, Class 1
- N- Electroless Nickel per SAE AMS2404, Class 3
- P - Shell material of Stainless Steel 300 Series per ASTM A484/A484M and ASTM A582/A582M Passivated per SAE AMS2700
- T- High Phosphorus Nickel with Fluorocarbon Polymer additive per SAE AMS2454, Grade 2E, Type V (9% MIN Phosphorus content by weight)

DLA approved product qualification testing for UV laser marking consisted of:

- TESTING: Permanency testing per MIL-DTL-202 and Salt Spray per EIA-364-26C Condition B.
- RESULTS: All product tested passed and the UV laser marking process is now qualified per the DLA as of February 21, 2024 (See attached Letter from DLA).

AirBorn's transition from "ink marking" to "UV laser marking" on M Series Micro-D Connectors and MIL-DTL-83513 product is scheduled to begin in April 2024. Targeted notifications will occur when customer drawing updates are needed to allow the use of the new laser marking process which will be AirBorn's preferred marking process. The intent of this letter is to notify our customer base of the upcoming transitional period as some products will begin shipping with the new laser marking and other products will be used to phase out ink marking during the course of 2024 and into 2025. Please note AirBorn does not intend to mix marking types within a single work order.



Additionally, AirBorn is streamlining our marking process to utilize marking on one side of the connector only. A representative picture of the ink marking on two sides (current state) vs the laser marking on one side (future state) is shown below:



Ink Technology, two sides



Laser Technology, one side



AirBorn's Change Notification Summary:

Laser technology is used throughout our industry for marking all types of products. The pros of using this technology far out way the cons and AirBorn looks forward to implementing this change for our customers. AirBorn is confident in the technology, performance and capabilities. The timeline to implement this as part of our continuous manufacturing process improvement is over the next 3-6 months beginning in April 2024 at the earliest. This will impact all M Series Micro-D Connectors product lines offered by AirBorn.

Should customers have questions or concerns regarding the process improvement and or change please contact your local customer service representative.

Director of Design Engineering

Director of Quality