

## POST OFFICE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

## SPECIFICATION FOR

HANDCART, COVERED, FOR WORKING PARTIES. **TL 12A**

(ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF'S DRAWING CD 92)

Referred to in the accompanying FORM OF TENDER, NO. ....

(to be signed and returned with Tender)

**\* I. GENERAL NOTES**

(a) All details, dimensions and instructions shown on any drawings, diagrams and specifications quoted herein should be taken as forming part of this specification. The latest issues of the relative drawings, diagrams or specifications will be indicated in the invitation to tender. If the latest issues are not already held by the contractor, copies should be obtained by application to the Engineer-in-Chief.

(b) The first issue of a specification carries a number without a suffix letter. When a specification is re-issued a suffix letter is added and for each subsequent issue the suffix letter is advanced by one.

(c) Except when a specification is completely rewritten, an amended paragraph is indicated by a star adjacent to the paragraph number and the particular portion amended is indicated by a vertical line in the margin.

(d) Supplementary specifications. When a British Standard or other Government Dept. specification is quoted by number only, the latest issue of that specification is to be followed, but if, in addition to the number, a particular issue is quoted, that issue of the specification is to be followed.

(e) Patterns, drawings and specifications. If there is any discrepancy between patterns and drawings, the drawings shall be followed, and if there is any discrepancy between drawings and specification, the specification shall be followed.

(f) When standard patterns are employed, supplies shall be at least equal as regards any properties, qualities or dimensions (other than minor non-essential differences due to variations in trade practice and which do not affect serviceability) not defined in this specification, to the standard patterns.

(g) If any further information in connexion with the specification is required, application should be made to the Department issuing the tender.

**2. FRAMING**

The frame shall be of English ash, mortised and tenoned together, the front and hind bridges shall be 2 ft. 11 in. long by 2 1/2 in. x 2 in.; the side blades shall be 3 in. x 2 in.; the middle fill shall be 3 in. x 2 in.

**3. BODY**

The outside dimensions of the body shall be as follows:-

Length	5 ft. 0 in.
Width	2 ft. 6 1/2 in.
Depth	} 3 ft. 4 in. at the centre } 2 ft. 8 in. at the sides
Centre pillars of body	5 1/4 in. x 1 3/4
Corner pillars of body	2 1/2 in. x 2 1/2 in.
Intermediate pillars (Muntings)	2 1/2 in. x 1 3/4 in.
Transoms 3 in. wide, 2 in. deep.	

A ridge rail 4 1/2 in. x 1 1/2 in. shall run the length of the cart to support the lids.

The body shall be strengthened by means of eight wrought angle irons 6 in. x 6 in. x 1 1/4 in. x 3/8 in., four at the top of the body (inside) and four inside the transoms carrying the middle floor.

All panelling shall be of red deal 5/8 in. thick.

The lower part of the body shall be lined inside with sheet iron 1/16 in. thick, the sides to a depth of 6 in. the front portion, the whole depth and width; the sheet iron shall be fixed by means of screws.

**4. FLOORS**

The floors (lower 3/4 in., upper 3/4 in.) shall be of red deal laid crosswise, laid on, not rebated, the upper floor shall be carried by the transoms with the addition of a middle fill 3 in. wide, 2 in. deep.

**5. DOOR**

The door at the back shall be of 1 in. red deal, shall be hinged with wrought iron hinges and shall be provided with a strong wrought iron hasp and staples, battens 3 in. x 3/4 on the inside at the back of each hinge; the hinges, hasp, and staples shall be fixed by means of bolts and nuts, the nuts shall be inside.

The bottom and sides of the opening for the door shall be provided with strips of half-round wrought iron 1 in. x 1/4 in.

**6. LIDS**

Two sloping lids 7/8 in. red deal, one fixed, the other lid hung by three 14 in. x 1/4 in. strap hinges, battens 4 in. x 7/8 in., shall be fixed under each hinge, and each hinge shall be bolted and screwed, the nuts shall be inside.

The top of each lid shall be covered its full length and width with dressed tarpaulin, the edges of each lid shall be bound by a 1 in. x 1/4 in. wrought iron band, and all edges and corners of the iron shall be rounded.

A strip of leather 6 in. wide shall be fitted the full length of ridge underneath the ladder cradles and over the hinges, to act as weathering.

A strong wrought iron strap with hasp shall be bolted on the hinged lid, the hasp shall engage on a suitable wrought iron staple, fixed on the side of the body; the staple shall be bolted to the side of the cart, having the nuts inside, The staple shall take a 3 in. padlock which will be supplied by the Department.

#### 7. LADDER CRADLES

Four ladder cradles, two on each side, 15 in. x 1 1/4 in. x 3/8 in. wrought iron shall be bolted to the roof by 5/16 in. bolts, the nuts shall be inside, see Drawing CD 92.

#### 8. GUARD IRONS

Guard irons, slipper shod with steel 16 in. x 3/4 in. wrought iron, shall be fixed under the ends of the cart, as indicated on Drawing CD 92, the nuts being outside, so that the iron can be readily detached for horse traction.

#### 9. HOOKS

Two hooks of 1 1/4 in. x 3/8 in. wrought iron as indicated in Drawing CD 92 shall be fitted to the ends of the cart by means of 1/4 in. bolts and nuts, the nuts shall be on the outside. The hooks shall project 8 in. from the cart and the length of the fixing strap shall be 8 in.

Four punner hooks of 1 1/4 in. x 3/8 in. wrought iron as indicated in Drawing CD 92 shall be fitted to the sides of the cart by means of 1/4 in. bolts and nuts, the nuts shall be on the outside. The hooks shall project 3 1/2 in. and shall be 3 1/2 in. deep (inside measurement); the fixing strap shall be 12 in. long.

#### 10. SHAFTS

The shafts shall be of English Ash 2 1/2 in. by 2 in., 9 ft. 3 in. long, fitted with harness "Stops" and shall be adjustable and removable to suit man or horse or carriage by rail, etc. The shafts shall be shod with wrought iron at the rear end, and plated at intermediate positions; the position of the intermediate plates shall coincide with the intermediate and front shaft guides fixed to the cart.

The shafts shall be drilled at the rear end only; the hole shall coincide with the hole in the shaft guides for the reception of wrought pins.

Six shaft guides of 1 1/4 in. x 3/8 in. wrought iron shall be fitted on the sides of the cart in accordance with Drawing CD 92, the back and intermediate guides shall be drilled for the reception of the wrought iron pins referred to in the previous and following paragraphs.

The wrought iron pins shall be fixed to the sides of the cart by means of chains and staples.

Two strong trace hooks shall be fitted to the front end of the cart level with the shaft guides by means of a long wrought iron strap.

#### 11. SPRINGS AND AXLE

The springs shall be fixed in the usual way, five plates, with clips, and shall be capable of carrying a load of 15 cwt. with safety.

A cranked axle 1 5/8 in. square 1 ft. 2 in. drop, see Drawing CD 92.

The axle shall be machined over the whole of its bearing surfaces. The collars of the axle shall be machined on their peripheries and bearing surfaces. The ends of the axle shall be fitted with bed nuts fixed in position with split pins.

#### 12. WHEELS

The diameter of the wheels shall be 4 ft. over all.

The tyres shall be of best Staffordshire iron 2 in. x 1/2 in.

The hubs shall be of English elm 9 in. x 8 in. diam.

The spokes, 14 in number, shall be of English oak 2 in. x 1 1/2 in.

The felloes shall be of English ash 2 1/4 in. x 2 in.

#### 13. MATERIALS

All materials shall be of the best quality, and all timber shall be well seasoned, and shall be free from knots, sapwood, and shakes, all dimensions given shall be regarded as finished sizes. Where the country of origin of the timber is not specified, suitable wood of Imperial origin may be used. Samples of the wood and the name of the country of origin shall be submitted with the tender.

#### 14. PAINTING

All tenons and other overlaid and secreted work shall be painted with pure lead and japan gold size before being put together.

The finished cart shall have a smooth clean finish and shall be treated as follows:-  
Outside (except underside of floor)

Two coats of priming (lead base, lead colour)

Two coats of Service green.

One coat of best carriage varnish.

Underside of floor.

Two coats of priming (lead base, lead colour)

One coat of lead paint tinted black.

Inside.

Two coats of stone colour lead paint.

Each coat shall be thoroughly dry before the next coat is applied.

The contractor shall supply all the paints and varnishes required.

For the guidance of the contractor in obtaining the desired shade, a sample 1 lb. tin of Service green paint will be supplied on application to The Controller, P.O. Stores Department.

#### 15. MARKING AND NUMBERING

The following inscription shall be painted in 2 in. block characters in white, on both sides of the body and within the top panels nearest the shaft end of the body:

POST  
OFFICE  
TELEPHONES

A number which will be supplied by the Controller P.O. Stores Department, shall be painted in 1 in. block characters in white in the bottom corners nearest the shaft end of the body of the two panels referred to above.

## 16. INSPECTION AND BRANDING

The handcarts will be inspected before and after painting at the contractor's works by the Department's inspecting officer.

All material and workmanship shall be to the satisfaction of the inspecting officer, who shall have free access to the contractor's works for the purpose of inspecting the process of manufacture in all its stages.

Satisfactory handcarts will be branded by the inspecting officer before they are painted: the means of heating the branding iron shall be supplied by the contractor.

## END OF SPECIFICATION

Signature of Person Tendering .....

Address .....

Date .....19.....

External Plant and Protection Branch,  
Engineer-in-Chief's Office,  
G.P.O., Harrogate, Yorkshire.  
March, 1941.