

ENGINEERING, FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT AND PROCUREMENT

Biomedical Equipment Maintenance

New Clinical Engineering Web Site

The Clinical Equipment area of the AFMLO website has been redesigned. This website, when fully finished, will offer "one-stop shopping" for all Biomedical Equipment Repair Technician (BMET) related issues. This site already includes a global locator for AF BMETs, a dedicated BMET conference forum, and electronic copies of most calibration forms (in Excel™ 4.0 and Excel '97™). In the very near future, the CFETP, all regulations, TOs, and AFIs sited in AFIs 41-201 and 41-203 will be available, and much more. Feedback is the key to this site reaching its potential. It is, and will be, geared to meet your needs but we may be unaware of all of them, so let us know.

Please come give it a try and tell us what you think and what it is you need. AFMLO created this site but has no pride of ownership. Therefore, feel free to honestly, but objectively, offer your comments, suggestions, and criticisms. The site can be accessed through the AFMLO home page (<http://140.139.13.36/afmlo>) or directly at <http://140.139.13.36/afmlo/fom-e/index.htm>. If you have any questions concerning the site, please contact TSgt Steve Walker. (AFMLO/FOM-E, TSgt Stephen Walker, DSN 343-4039 or stephen.walker@ft-detrick.af.mil)

The P-Number Program

The P-number program is a centrally managed program designed to help Biomedical Equipment Repair Technicians (BMETs) order and track repair parts for equipment in their facilities. By using the P-number associated with the specific manufacturer, the BMET can tie that repair part directly to the piece of equipment regardless of the source. This centrally managed program is limited to the manufacturers of the equipment and not for distributors or other third-party sources. Locally established P-numbers should not be used to order repair parts and should be limited to frequently used providers of shop supplies.

To request a new P-number, simply call AFMLO/FOM-E (currently TSgt Walker) at DSN 343-4039, commercial (301) 619-4039, or via e-mail at stephen.walker@ft-detrick.af.mil. In order to receive a new P-number you must provide the manufacturer's name and phone number, and if possible, the street and web address. Once this information is received, you will receive the P-number, CAGE (if needed), and the MEDLOG name (see below) for the manufacturer.

New For 1999

The 1999 P-Number Reference Guide is complete and should be at your facility by mid-August. In this year's reference you will notice several changes. The first and probably most notable is the MEDLOG name. This was added to help standardize manufacturer names across the Air Force. We will soon have access to a near real-time HMR for all facilities and standardization will help us track Health Devices™ alerts and to develop a risk-based maintenance program. We ask that as time permits, or when entering work order information that the manufacturer names get updated.

The second key feature is the "Removed P-Numbers" list. We have compared the old P-number list with the inventories provided during the Y2K reporting period and have removed all the

manufacturers that were not represented by at least one piece of equipment Air Force wide. It is possible that we inadvertently removed a P-number for a manufacturer that you may have. If you need a P-number placed back on the active list, please contact AFMLO/FOM-E with the necessary information. Additionally, if you know of a manufacturer on the list that is no longer in business, please let us know as soon as possible.

Don't hesitate to send your comments or suggestions. The AFMLO POC for this program is TSgt Stephen Walker at DSN 343-4039, commercial (301) 619-4039, or via e-mail at stephen.walker@ft-detrick.af.mil. (AFMLO/FOM-E, TSgt Stephen Walker, DSN 343-4039 or stephen.walker@ft-detrick.af.mil)

Quality Assurance

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Recalls/Alert Notices

Attachment 2, paragraph 1, provides information on FDA medical equipment recalls and alerts. Personnel from clinical engineering, biomedical equipment maintenance, quality assurance, and safety should follow the guidance provided to ensure the effective maintenance and management of medical equipment. (AFMLO/FOM, Capt P.J. Toth, DSN 343-7445)

WILLIAM H. HILL
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