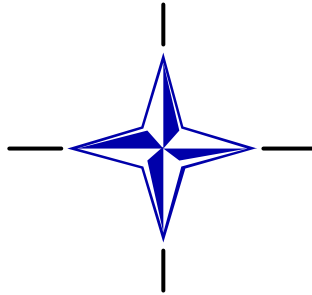


STANAG No. 2138
(Edition 4)

**NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION
(NATO)**



**MILITARY AGENCY FOR STANDARDIZATION
(MAS)**

**STANDARDIZATION AGREEMENT
(STANAG)**

SUBJECT: TROOP TRIAL PRINCIPLES AND PROCEDURES - COMBAT
CLOTHING AND PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

Promulgated on 31st May 1996

G.B. FERRARI
Major-General, ITAF
Chairman, MAS

STANAG 2138

(Edition 4)

RECORD OF AMENDMENTS

No.	Reference/date of amendment	Date entered	Signature

EXPLANATORY NOTES

AGREEMENT

1. This NATO Standardization Agreement (STANAG) is promulgated by the Chairman MAS under the authority vested in him by the NATO Military Committee.
2. No departure may be made from the agreement without consultation with the tasking authority. Nations may propose changes at any time to the tasking authority where they will be processed in the same manner as the original agreement.
3. Ratifying nations have agreed that national orders, manuals and instructions implementing this STANAG will include a reference to the STANAG number for purposes of identification.

DEFINITIONS

4. Ratification is "In NATO Standardisation, the fulfilment by which a member nation formally accepts, with or without reservation, the content of a Standardization Agreement" (AAP-6).
5. Implementation is "In NATO Standardisation, the fulfilment by a member nation of its obligations as specified in a Standardization Agreement" (AAP-6).
- . Reservation is "In NATO Standardization, the stated qualification by a member nation that describes the part of a Standardization Agreement that it will not implement or will implement only with limitations" (AAP-6).

NATO STANDARDIZATION AGREEMENT
(STANAG)

TROOP TRIAL PRINCIPLES AND PROCEDURES - COMBAT CLOTHING
AND PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

Related Documents:

STANAG 2311	Principles Governing the Design of the Individual Load-Carrying Equipment of the Combat Soldier
STANAG 2333	Performance and Protective Properties of Combat Clothing
STANAG 2335	Interchangeability of Combat Clothing Sizes
STANAG 2895	Extreme Climatic Conditions and Derived Conditions for use in defining Design/Test Criteria for NATO Forces Materiel

AIM

1. The aim of this agreement is to agree upon principles and procedures to be used by the NATO Forces in the conduct of troop trials for combat clothing and personal equipment.

AGREEMENT

2. Participating nations agree to follow the basic principles for troop trials of combat clothing and equipment, as outlined below.

DEFINITIONS

3. The following terms are used for the purpose of this agreement :
- a. Material. Item of clothing or personal equipment.
 - b. Troop Trial. A user trial of material by military units in the field under operational conditions.
 - c. Controlled Field Trial. A trial of material which is carried out in the field by military units performing controlled activities.
 - d. Technical Test. A test of material, usually carried out in a laboratory under closely controlled experimental conditions, which may or may not involve individual military personnel.

- e. Trial Directive. The trial directive is the principal reference document authorizing the trial and all trial arrangements.
- f. Statement of Requirement. A document listing all the desired design criteria, intended climatic conditions and intended users.
- g. Subjects. Personnel who are participating in a trial by using the material and are subject to observation or measurement.

DETAILS OF THE AGREEMENT

- 4. .a. New materials will be troop trialled before being accepted for in-service use. Technical tests and controlled field trials may be carried out, preferably preceding the troop trial. Where modifications to the material are made, technical tests or controlled field trials may replace troop trials.
- b. The aim of trialling is to determine whether the material being trailed meets the criteria documented in the statement of requirement. The aim of the troop trial is to test the material under realistic and operational conditions. In general, such trials can best measure user acceptance, durability, resistance against abuse, technical lifetime, and detection of incompatibility with other equipment. It is recommended to obtain other information from the other two types of trial, since this is more reliable and cost effective. It is also recommended to reduce the number of models in a troop trial as much as the commercial and technical implications will allow, using technical tests and controlled field trials.
- c. Before a troop trial is detailed it shall be stated in what way the information to be gained from the troop trial will be used. In particular it must be made clear whether the trial will lead to a selection procedure, the results are to be used to make modifications, and what are the acceptability criteria. These aims must be clearly stated in the trial directive.
- d. Troop trials shall be documented in a report with all the relevant details. The report would indicate the extent to which the material meets each of the design criteria stated in the statement of requirement. The report may recommend modifications and further tests where the function of the material is questionable or requirements are not defined.
- e. The material should be subjected to the conditions and use for which it was designed. If it is to be introduced to units having different operational requirements, each type of unit will be included in the troop trial. Test conditions that do not occur during the troop trial period may be made up for by technical tests, depending on the urgency of procurement. Such tests should be confirmed by troop trials in due time. This holds particularly for weather conditions.
- f. The test material should be produced using methods as near as full scale production process as is possible. Any change in production process requires additional

evaluation of the material.

- g. The information to be obtained from troop trials shall be gained using sound methods. Interviews and questionnaires shall be designed to exclude bias, the limits of acceptability shall be clearly defined, and the plan of test shall be designed to ensure the validity of the conclusions to the required degree of statistical significance.
- h. If technical tests with subjects or controlled field trials are conducted the test protocol shall ensure the safety of the subjects. In particular the purpose of the test, the test procedures, and any possible risk will be explained to them. The risk must be minimized and the necessity for medical supervision carefully considered. It is required that the protocol be approved by a recognized ethics committee or appropriate alternative authority.
- i. Observers from other nations, interested or co-operating in the development or trialling of the material, shall be invited to attend the trials.
- j. Rights of other parties will be honoured, in particular the industrial and intellectual property rights of the producer of the material and the privacy of medical information concerning the subjects.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT

5. This STANAG will be considered to have been implemented when the necessary instructions have been issued directing the forces concerned to put the content of this agreement into effect.