

## COMPLIANCE TESTING PROGRAM

July 6, 2020

**NIJ CTP Product Conformity Assessment System  
Document 606.4: Autoloading Pistol Scheme  
Version 2.1 Update**

This revision (2.1) reflects changes resulting from the conclusion of the former Justice Technology Information Center (JTIC) program on December 31, 2019, which previously hosted the NIJ CTP. The NIJ CTP has transitioned to, and is now hosted by, RTI International as part of the Criminal Justice Testing & Evaluation Consortium (CJTEC).

The changes to this document in this revision are as follows:

1. All references to JTIC have been removed from the document.
2. The Introduction has been revised, to harmonize with other NIJ CTP Conformity Assessment Documents.

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**COMPLIANCE TESTING PROGRAM**

**NIJ CTP Product Conformity Assessment System:  
Autoloading Pistol Scheme**

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## Introduction

This product conformity assessment scheme forms a part of the National Institute of Justice Compliance Testing Program (NIJ CTP) Product Conformity Assessment System. The top level system document (NIJ CTP Product Conformity Assessment System, Document ID 606.1) contains additional information and requirements that are applicable to this subordinate scheme. The conformity assessment requirements contained in this scheme have precedence over those contained in NIJ Standard 0112.03 (Revision A).

Participation in this scheme requires the transfer of firearms between the applicant, the NIJ CTP and the test laboratory. Participants are expected to comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws.

The official specification limits contained in this scheme shall be in International System of Units (SI). Any other units provided in parenthesis following the SI units are for convenience only. If any difference exists because of conversion or rounding, the SI units have precedence.

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## 1 Scope

**1.1** This scheme describes the specific conformity assessment requirements of the National Institute of Justice Compliance Testing Program (NIJ CTP) for autoloading pistols to be listed on the [NIJ Compliant Products List \(CPL\)](#).

**1.2** Autoloading pistols shall be tested in accordance with NIJ Standard 0112.03 (Revision A), *Autoloading Pistols for Police Officers*, by an [NIJ-approved laboratory](#) according to this scheme.

**1.3** Only the following calibers are within the scope of this scheme:

- a) 9mm Luger;
- b) .357 SIG;
- c) .40 S&W;
- d) .45 ACP.

**1.4** Pistols with double action or single action, hammer fire action, or striker fire action are all within the scope of this scheme.

**1.5** This scheme does not include requirements for shooting accuracy.

**1.6** Where requirements contained in this document may differ with requirements contained in NIJ Standard 0112.03 (Revision A), this document shall take precedence.

**1.7** The requirements in *NIJ CTP Product Conformity Assessment System – General Requirements* apply unless otherwise indicated.

## 2 References

For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

**2.1** NIJ Standard 0112.03 (Revision A), *Autoloading Pistols for Police Officers*

**2.2** *NIJ CTP Product Conformity Assessment System 606.1 – General Requirements*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in NIJ Standard 0112.03 (Revision A), *Autoloading Pistols for Police Officers* and *NIJ CTP Product Conformity Assessment System – General Requirements* apply.

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### 3.1 attestation

Issue of a statement, based on a decision following review, that fulfilment of specified requirements has been demonstrated (ISO/IEC 17000, 5.2).

## 4 Application

### 4.1 Applicants shall provide the following with their autoloading pistol model application:

- a) Scope of requested certification, including caliber and action type;
- b) List of all documents necessary for the construction of the autoloading pistol, including assembly drawings and bills of materials, with revision number and date of each document;
- c) Diagram of the autoloading pistol with all parts labeled;
- d) Description of magazines supplied by the Applicant to end users with the autoloading pistol that includes:
  - i) Manufacturer;
  - ii) Capacity;
  - iii) Style;
  - iv) Part number or other type of identification;
- e) End-user information that accompanying the autoloading pistol which includes:
  - i) Instructions for field disassembly/assembly and diagram(s) identifying all parts;
  - ii) Cleaning instructions;
  - iii) Description of each safety feature designed into the pistol, how each safety feature is intended to function, and for those under shooter control, how the shooter should operate (activate/deactivate) each safety feature;
  - iv) Statement on ammunition known to be beyond the design limits of the pistol (e.g., +P ammunition in a pistol not designed to handle +P ammunition) and/or known not to function in the pistol;
  - v) Parts list or instructions for obtaining a parts list;
- f) Designation of the NIJ-approved test laboratory that will be used for testing; and
- g) A signed copy of the Applicant's Federal Firearms License.

**Note:** The NIJ CTP may request additional information and/or require additional administrative forms or agreements to be completed before accepting the application.

**4.3** The Applicant shall be responsible for all costs associated with completing an application, including but not limited to, providing the required information and documentation, shipping test items, and laboratory testing.

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## 5 Selection

**5.1** The Applicant shall provide test items to the NIJ CTP, consisting of two autoloading pistols representing the proposed design, along with the same number and type of magazines supplied with the autoloading pistol to end users.

*The NIJ CTP will only accept test items from locations from within the United States and is not authorized to accept test items from outside of the United States.*

Additionally, the Applicant shall indicate on company letterhead which NIJ approved laboratory has been selected for testing, the date the testing is scheduled, brand(s) of ammunition selected for testing, and who will conduct the shooting (Applicant supplied, laboratory representative, etc.) during the test. This information shall be supplied to the NIJ CTP in electronic format.

**5.2** The NIJ CTP shall prepare a test plan for the Applicant and test laboratory that meets the requirements of NIJ Standard 0112.03 (Revision A) and this scheme, and includes at least the following:

- a) NIJ CTP assigned identification number;
- b) Caliber;
- c) Action type;
- d) Number of test items; and
- e) Special instructions for the test laboratory (optional).

## 6 Determination

**6.1** Testing laboratories

**6.1.1** Testing shall be conducted by an NIJ-approved laboratory.

**6.1.2** Laboratories shall be accredited by the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) to ISO/IEC 17025 and NIJ Standard 0112.03 (Revision A), and all test methods referenced therein.

**6.1.3** Laboratories shall be located in the United States.

**6.1.4** Laboratories shall have a valid Laboratory Agreement with NIJ.

**6.1.5** NIJ-approved laboratories shall be listed on a public website.

**Note:** Laboratories approved by NIJ to conduct testing as a part of the NIJ CTP are listed here: [www.cjtec.org](http://www.cjtec.org)

**6.2** Inspection of test items prior to testing

Prior to testing, the NIJ CTP shall inspect the test items for suitability and end-user information for compliance with requirements.

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### 6.3 Laboratory testing

**6.3.1** The NIJ CTP shall provide the two pistols, magazines, and the associated test plan to the NIJ-approved test laboratory selected by the Applicant.

**6.3.2** The test laboratory shall provide the NIJ CTP with a signed copy of their Federal Firearms License in order to facilitate shipping the test items.

**6.3.3** The test laboratory shall be responsible for test item identification throughout the life of the test item in the laboratory, using a method that will not be destroyed or become illegible during testing.

**6.3.4** The test laboratory shall use the specifications provided in Appendix A of this document when performing the Barrel Bore Dimensions test (NIJ 0112.03 Rev A, Section 5.4.1).

**6.3.5** All firing tests shall be performed by a shooter provided by the Applicant. If the Applicant elects not to provide a shooter, the Applicant shall specify that either a qualified representative of the test laboratory shall perform the tests or that mechanical rests shall be used.

### 6.4 Test report

**6.4.1** The test laboratory shall report test results using the current NIJ CTP-provided test report in electronic format.

**6.4.2** The test laboratory shall provide a signed cover letter on letterhead, indicating accreditation status.

**6.4.3** The test laboratory shall verify that all test items conform to the description recorded on the test report.

**6.4.4** The test laboratory shall furnish a copy of the test report to the NIJ CTP and return the test items to the NIJ CTP.

**6.4.5** The NIJ CTP shall inspect the test report for errors and return it to the test laboratory for correction if needed.

### 6.5 Inspection of test items after testing

The NIJ CTP shall visually inspect all test items received from the test laboratory to verify consistency of construction, accuracy of both the Applicant's and test laboratory's description of the construction, and that no damage has occurred.

### 6.6 Resubmitting a design

**6.6.1** If the test items successfully complete all but one of the performance tests (one failure), the manufacturer may elect to resubmit that design to the NIJ CTP for retesting according to the following steps:

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- a) The manufacturer must include a written explanation with the sample submitted for retesting indicating why, in their opinion, the test item failed this portion of testing and what steps they have taken to correct the cause of failure.
- b) If the steps taken to correct the cause of failure do not constitute a change in design or construction that has the potential to affect the performance of the pistol as it relates to the required testing already completed, the model may be retested only for that portion of the test that it originally failed, with the exception of the Drop Function Test (Sec. 5.8) where the Drop Safety Test (Sec. 5.7) must also be performed.
- c) Retesting must be done with the same type of magazine (manufacturer, capacity and part number) used in earlier tests.
- d) A design that fails retesting may not be tested again.

**6.6.2** If the test items experience two or more test failures, the design shall not be accepted by the NIJ CTP for retesting.

## **6.7 Compliance recommendation**

**6.7.1** The NIJ CTP shall evaluate the materials and information provided by the Applicant and test report and other information provided by the test laboratory to develop a compliance recommendation.

**6.7.2** The compliance recommendation shall include:

- a) A cover letter with the following information:
  - i) Applicant name;
  - ii) Product type;
  - iii) Model designation;
  - iv) NIJ CTP assigned identification number;
  - v) List of materials (documents) inspected by NIJ CTP that support the recommendation;
  - vi) List of documents included with the cover letter;
  - vii) Noteworthy information related to recommendation;
  - viii) Signatures of two NIJ CTP staff members indicating agreement with the compliance recommendation;
- b) Test report;
- c) List of all documents necessary for the construction of the autoloading pistol, including assembly drawings and bills of materials, with revision number and date of each document;
- d) End-user information that accompanies the autoloading pistol.

**6.7.3** The compliance recommendation shall be provided to NIJ for review when making a certification decision.

## **7 Review and certification decision**

**7.1** An NIJ staff member shall review the compliance recommendation.



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**7.2** An NIJ staff member shall make the certification decision.

**7.3** The NIJ CTP shall issue an attestation to the Applicant in accordance with Section 7 of *NIJ CTP Product Conformity Assessment System – General Requirements*. The NIJ Notice of Compliance shall include the pistol caliber and description of the magazines used for initial conformity assessment testing.

**7.3** The NIJ CTP shall list the compliant autoloading pistol model on the Compliant Products List in accordance with Section 8 of *NIJ CTP Product Conformity Assessment System – General Requirements*.  
 Note: The autoloading pistols CPL is found here: <https://www.cjtec.org>.

## **8 Indication of conformity**

**8.1** The Applicant shall indicate that autoloading pistol models covered by the NIJ Notice of Compliance are compliant with the NIJ CTP requirements in accordance with Section 9 of *NIJ CTP Product Conformity Assessment System – General Requirements*.

**8.2** The Applicant shall affix the following statement to the product packaging of autoloading pistol models covered by the NIJ Notice of Compliance as an attestation of a model’s compliance status, in lieu of Section 9.2 of *NIJ CTP Product Conformity Assessment System – General Requirements*:

“[Applicant] attests that this autoloading pistol model, [model designation], has been tested in accordance with NIJ Standard 0112.03 (Revision A), *Autoloading Pistols for Police Officers*, and is in compliance with the National Institute of Justice Compliance Testing Program requirements.”

**8.3** The “NIJ Listed” mark of conformity shall not be used in association with autoloading pistols.

**Note:** NIJ may authorize use of the “NIJ Listed” mark of conformity for autoloading pistols in a future revision of the NIJ CTP.

## **9 Test Items**

**9.1** The NIJ CTP shall maintain chain of custody of test items once they are received from the Applicant.

**9.2** Test items shall not be returned to the Applicant while a model is under consideration to be listed on the CPL.

**9.3** The NIJ CTP shall ship the test items to the following entities only:

- a) The Applicant.
- b) The NIJ-approved test laboratory selected by the Applicant.

**9.4** The NIJ-approved test laboratory selected by the Applicant shall only ship test items to the NIJ CTP.

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**9.5** Test items shall be returned to the Applicant under the following circumstances:

- a) The model is listed on the CPL after it is found to be compliant with program requirements.
- b) The model is rejected from being listed on the CPL after it is found to not be compliant with program requirements.
  - The NIJ CTP shall hold the test items for 30 calendar days from the date the Applicant is notified by the NIJ CTP the test item has been rejected for CPL listing.
    - If an appeal is submitted, the test items shall remain with the CTP until the appeal is adjudicated, then the NIJ CTP shall return the test items.
    - If no appeal is submitted within 30 calendar days, the NIJ CTP shall return the test items.
- c) The Applicant voluntarily withdraws a model from consideration to be listed on the CPL.
  - NOTE: Withdrawing a model is considered final and will result in the application being closed. The Applicant shall submit a new application for the NIJ CTP to reconsider the model to be listed on the CPL.

**9.6** The Applicant may visit the CTP facility to inspect the test items during an appeal.

**9.5** The status of the application for the submitted model shall be considered final once the test items are returned to the Applicant, as the NIJ CTP no longer maintains chain of custody of the test items.

**9.7** The NIJ CTP is required to have a signed copy of the Applicant's Federal Firearms License prior to returning test items to the Applicant.

## **10 Surveillance**

**10.1** Every calendar year, Applicants shall submit documentation to the NIJ CTP to verify that all models currently listed on the CPL continue to be manufactured using the same design as originally submitted to the NIJ CTP for certification.

**10.1.1** The surveillance package submitted by the Applicant shall contain the following:

- a) A copy of the applicable NIJ Notice of Compliance for each model listed on the CPL;
- b) A letter on company letterhead signed by an officer of the company that includes the following information for each autoloading pistol models listed on the CPL:
  - i) Confirmation that the model is still manufactured by the company;
  - ii) Any changes in design;
  - iii) Any changes in materials of construction;
  - iv) Any product recalls, or similar actions;
  - v) Any notices sent to customers notifying them of parts, features, or functions that affect the safe operation or handling of the autoloading pistols, including the corrective action that end users should take, such as replacement, exchange, repair, or other servicing.

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**10.1.2** If any changes have occurred to the autoloading pistol since the prior submission to the NIJ CTP (i.e., either the initial application or the prior surveillance submission), the NIJ CTP shall determine whether the listed product should repeat initial product testing.

**10.1.3** The Applicant may provide supporting evidence, documentation, or reasoning to accompany the surveillance materials described in 9.1.1 of this document.

**10.1.4** If an Applicant declares that a compliant product is no longer manufactured, the NIJ CTP at its discretion may amend the listing on the CPL to indicate the status of the product, depending on the information supplied by the Applicant (e.g., whether the product is still supported by the company's service department).

## **11 Changes affecting certification**

The NIJ CTP may make changes to the conformity assessment requirements in accordance with Section 10 of *NIJ CTP Product Conformity Assessment System – General Requirements* (NIJ CTP Product Conformity Assessment System, Document ID 606.1).

## **12 Withdrawal of certification**

**12.1** A product's certification may be withdrawn in accordance with Section 11 of *NIJ CTP Product Conformity Assessment System – General Requirements*.

**12.2** A product's certification may be withdrawn if the Applicant does not meet the surveillance requirements in Section 9 of this scheme.

**12.3** An Applicant may request that the NIJ CTP withdraw a product's certification if it no longer wishes to participate in the NIJ CTP.

**12.4** A product's certification may be withdrawn if the NIJ CTP becomes aware of information that a hazardous condition exists.

**12.4.1** If NIJ believes that a hazardous condition exists, the NIJ CTP may, at its discretion, suspend a model from the CPL to conduct an investigation.

**12.4.2** Pending the results of an investigation, the model may have the suspension lifted, be removed from the CPL, or require further testing and evaluation to determine its compliance status.

## **13 Complaints and appeals**

Complaints and appeals may be filed in accordance with Section 12 of *NIJ CTP Product Conformity Assessment System – General Requirements*.

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## 14 Revision history

Revision	Section	Change	Name	Date
Revision 1.0	Initial release		Jamie Phillips	8/1/16
Revision 2.0	Section 9 Section 10	Changed layout for revision history.  Changes regarding surveillance requirements for participating Applicants.	Alex Sundstrom	5/16/18
Revision 2.1	General Document	All references to the Justice Technology Information Center (JTIC) have been removed from the document, as that program ended December 31, 2019. The NIJ CTP is now hosted by the Criminal Justice Testing & Evaluation Consortium (CJTEC), operated by RTI International.  Harmonized Introduction for consistency with other NIJ CTP Scheme Documents.	Lance Miller	7/2/20

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**Table A – Bore Dimensions\***

Caliber	Minimum Land Diameter (in)	Maximum Groove Diameter (in)	Minimum Bore & Groove Area (in <sup>2</sup> )
9mm Luger	0.346	0.355	0.0967
357 SIG	0.346	0.355	0.0969
40 S&W	0.390	0.4005	0.1233
45 ACP	0.442	0.450	0.1570

Caliber	Minimum Land Diameter (mm)	Maximum Groove Diameter (mm)	Minimum Bore & Groove Area (mm <sup>2</sup> )
9mm Luger	8.79	9.02	62.387
357 SIG	8.79	9.017	62.516
40 S&W	9.91	10.173	79.548
45 ACP	11.23	11.43	101.290

\*Values duplicate values provided in ANSI/SAAMI Z299.3-2015.