

Autoloading Pistols Conformity Assessment Program

Purpose

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Compliance Testing Program's (CTP's) conformity assessment programs are intended to provide criminal justice practitioners with confidence that products meet applicable NIJ minimum performance requirements. For autoloading pistols, those performance requirements are contained in *Autoloading Pistols for Police Officers, NIJ Standard-0112.03, Revision A*.

The existing conformity assessment program for autoloading pistols required manufacturers to submit sample pistols through the NIJ CTP for both testing and examination. If testing and examination were successful, the model was added to the applicable NIJ CTP compliant product list (CPL). The manufacturer would then be able to attest to that model's compliance with NIJ Standard-0112.03 Revision A by including a statement of attestation as part of the required user information.

During a recent review of the autoloading pistol program, areas of concern were identified related to model production, design changes made by manufacturers to listed models, and recalls of listed models. The CPL was subsequently withdrawn until improvements could be implemented.

The purpose of this document is to inform stakeholders of changes to the NIJ CTP autoloading pistol conformity assessment program. These changes are designed to provide greater confidence that production pistols continue to represent those samples previously submitted to the NIJ CTP for testing and inspection.

Clarification

The NIJ CTP's requirements for autoloading pistols shall now include periodic surveillance requirements for manufacturers in order to provide greater assurance that the design and construction of newly manufactured pistols

continues to be representative of those pistols initially provided to the NIJ CTP for testing, inspection and certification.

If a manufacturer fails to satisfactorily participate in the NIJ CTP surveillance, its model may be removed from the NIJ CTP or annotated to indicate that it is no longer compliant. When the removal of a model on the NIJ CPL occurs, it will be communicated to stakeholders of the program and criminal justice practitioners in the form of a published NIJ Advisory.

Implementation

In addition to past requirements, all new model applications must also include:

1. A list of all key documents necessary for the construction of the autoloading pistol, to include assembly drawings and bills of materials (list must include revision and date of each document).
2. Copies of top level documents from Item 1 (additional documents may be requested by the NIJ CTP).
3. The model designation assigned to test samples which uniquely identifies the design of the pistol.

Every calendar year following initial certification, the manufacturer (or the applicants responsible for a pistol) must submit the following to the NIJ CTP:

1. A copy of the applicable annual notice of compliance.
2. A list of all current key documents necessary for the construction of the autoloading pistol to include assembly drawings and bills of materials (list must include revision and date of each document).
3. If any changes have occurred to Item 2 since last submitted, an explanation and reasoning for not repeating initial product testing.

Manufacturers responsible for models previously listed on the CPL have been contacted and offered the opportunity to meet the revised requirements and remain on the CPL. Beginning immediately, the autoloading pistol CPL shall be reinstated and shall list only those models that comply with the NIJ CTP's revised requirements. Any previously listed models that do not meet the additional requirements or that are no longer being produced shall be included on a list of inactive models. The Inactive Models List is being maintained for end users who may still carry these pistols.

In addition to the above changes, criminal justice practitioners shall be advised to look for the following attestation (statement) of compliance on the packaging or user information of each individual pistol:

"(manufacturer/applicant) certifies that this autoloading pistol, Model **(model identification)**, was manufactured in compliance with both the National Institute of Justice Compliance Testing Program requirements and NIJ Standard-0112.03, Revision A."

If this statement does not appear on the packaging or user information, criminal justice practitioners shall be advised that the subject pistol was not manufactured in compliance with the NIJ CTP requirements.

Manufacturers who are interested in submitting pistols for testing should follow the link below for instructions.

<https://justnet.org/howto/Submit-Pistols4Testing.html>