



US Air Force Holocom PDS Standards

References and Technical Policy:

The primary references for PDS application for the US Air Force

- National Security Agency (NSA) document NSTISSI no. 7003, December 1996
- Air Force Systems Security Instruction (AFSSI) 7703 dated August 26, 2008 with ESIM 2009-1 Supplements

US Air Force Holocom PDS Standards:

Paragraph A7.4.1.5 of the AFSSI directs that a "carrier" can be constructed with "...rigid sheet metal steel ducting 16 gauge or better, using elbows, couplings, nipples, and connectors of the same material..." and that "...Commercially available metallic PDS systems must be approved by the ISO or CTTA prior to purchase."

US Air Force Emission Security (EMSEC) Policy for Commercial Protected Distribution Systems (PDS) Use in CONUS and OCONUS with DTG: 20 1721Z Mar 2009 has been added as Section A7.7 to the AFSSI and states Commercial PDS products such as Holocom PDS may be substituted for EMT in low and medium threat environments with the following caveats (paraphrased):

- For CONUS USAF/ANG/AFRES facilities with SECRET or below classification, Holocom PDS may be used without epoxy.
- For CONUS off-base government locations with SECRET or below classification, Holocom PDS may be used and key joints must be sealed with epoxy, except the lockbox door. (A key joint is the piece that is installed last or if disassembling, the first component to be used...e.g. the raceway lock kit.)
- For CONUS off-base locations at TOP SECRET/SPECAT levels, Holocom PDS may be used and all joints except the lockbox door must be sealed with epoxy.

- For OCONUS air bases/facilities at SECRET and below classification levels, Holocom PDS may be used and all joints except the lockbox door must be sealed with epoxy.
- For OCONUS air bases/facilities at TOP SECRET/SPECAT levels, PDS is not normally permitted.
- The Holocom 16 Gauge Sheet-Metal Enclosure product line complies with US Air Force CONUS standards.
- The Holocom 12 Gauge Sheet-Metal User Drop Box and "pull box" equivalent enclosures comply with US Air Force "Outside the US, Medium Threat" standards.
- Contact the Holocom Technical Services Division for help specifying time and material requirements for the use of epoxy.
- The Holocom Quality Assurance Checklist guides completion of a technically competent and aesthetic product installation. (Contact the Holocom Technical Services Division at www.holocom.com.)