



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA**  
**PENNSYLVANIA COMMERCIAL ITEM DESCRIPTION (PCID)**

**PCID NO. 1008**  
**Eff. 3/20/20**

**TOWELS, PAPER**  
**Folded and Roll**

(This item description supersedes PCID 1008 dated 5/16/2018)

This Pennsylvania Commercial Item Description covers requirements for paper towels. Product shall conform to the following requirements unless otherwise specified in the bid proposal or purchase order.

**1. Classification -**

- Class IA. Standard “C” Fold
- Class IB. Premium “C” Fold
- Class II. Multifold-interfold (single sheet)
- Class III. Roll, softwound perforated ‘kitchen-type’
- Class IV. Roll, Embossed, Hardwound

**2. Quality and Materials -** Towels shall be well closed and free from lumps, dirt, slivers, holes, breaks, and wrinkles. Perforations shall be complete and regular in roll towels, and folded towels shall have uniform folds. Count shall be full. Towels shall have no disagreeable odor, wet or dry. Towels shall contain a minimum of 40% post-consumer content.

**3. Physical Requirements\*<sup>1</sup>-**

	<u>Class IA</u>	<u>Class IB</u>	<u>Class II</u>	<u>Class III</u>	<u>Class IV</u>	<u>TAPPI Method</u>
<b>Tensile Strength, grams/3inch, min</b>						
Machine Direction						
Dry	<b>3500</b>	4500	<b>3500</b>	2200	4300	T-404* <sup>2</sup> or T-494
Wet	1100	1100	1100	725	<b>850</b>	T-456* <sup>2</sup> or T-494
Cross Direction						
Dry	2400	2800	<b>1900</b>	1575	1700	T-404* <sup>2</sup> or T-494
<b>Dry Elongation, %, min</b>						
Machine Direction	4.0	<b>4.5</b>	4.0	4.0	4.0	T-404* <sup>2</sup> or T-494
<b>Water Absorbency, sec/0.1 ml, max</b>	125	<b>55</b>	125	10	100	T-432
<b>Total Absorption, gsm, min</b>	85	120	85	100	85	T-402 * <sup>3</sup>

\*1 – All tests to be performed on paper conditioned in accordance with TAPPI (Technical Association of the Pulp & Paper Industry) Standard T-402

\*2 – Jaw gap 4” apart on pendulum-type tester and the machine speed of 10 inches per minute.

\*3 – Total Water Absorption - The test specimen shall be 4x4 ±1/16” conditioned in accordance with TAPPI method No. T-402, and then weighed on an analytical balance. Immerse the specimen in water at 73° F. ± 3.5° F. for 3 minutes, then hang by one corner so that the diagonal is vertical over water and allow the specimen to drain 3 minutes ± 5 seconds remove and weigh. Calculated the following: Absorbent Capacity (g/specimen area) = Wet Weight (g) - Dry Weight (g)

**4. Special Requirements / Class IA &B, “C” fold -** Each towel when folded shall measure not less than 3” nor more than 4” in width, and not less than 9-1/2” nor more than 12-3/4” ± 1/8” unfolded width. Total area of a single towel shall not be less than 127sq. in.

**5. Special Requirements / Class II, Multifold-interfold (single sheet) -** Each towel when folded shall measure not less than 3” nor more than 4” in width, and not less than 9” in length when open. Total area of each towel shall not be less than 83 sq. in.

**6. Special Requirements / Class III, roll, softwound -** Each towel shall measure 10.8”± 0.2” in width.

**7. Special Requirements / ClassIV, roll, embossed, hardwood**

7.1 Size 1. Each roll shall fit standard dispensers for 8.0” wide roll towels (not less than 7.85” nor more than 8.125” in width).

7.2 Size 2. Each roll shall fit the special dispensers for 10.0” wide roll towels (not less than 9.875 “ nor more than 10.125” in width).

7.3 Size 3. Each roll shall fit the special dispensers for 7.5” wide roll towels (not less than 7.375” nor more than 7.7” in width).

**8. Measurement** - The area of a towel will be measured on the complete towel. All other tests will be conducted using a 1- ply sheet, except that towels, which dispense 2-ply, will be tested 2-ply for tensile strength and dry elongation

**9. Testing** - Tests shall be conducted in accordance with the applicable testing methods of the: Technical Association of the Pulp & Paper Industry (TAPPI) Test Methods Standards as listed. The Commonwealth reserves the right to use any additional information or applicable tests to determine conformity to specification. The Commonwealth reserves the right to solicit independent product testing, at the awarded supplier’s expense, to determine conformance to specification.

**10. Inspection & Rejection** - Sampling for prior to/post- award testing, if required, will be as defined in the bid proposal. Inspection may be made at place of manufacture at the option of the Commonwealth after an award has been made. Inspection for final acceptance shall be made at the place of delivery and/or after laboratory testing to determine whether product or service meets the specification requirements. Samples for inspection and after delivery testing shall be selected by simple random sampling. If defects are detected during the course of delivery, or after product has been delivered, the Commonwealth reserves the right to reject the defective product and require replacement at no cost to the Commonwealth, or cancel the contract and surcharge the contractor for any expense incurred by the cancellation of the contract and in securing satisfactory materials, if the vendor fails to apply timely and corrective measures.

**11. Packing** -

11.1 “C” fold and multifold-interfold towels shall be packed as described per the line items of the bid. Towels shall be packaged with paper-based sleeve or wrapper covering not less than 75% of the surface of the package area, and with the seam overlapped and securely gummed with a good grade of adhesive. Wrapping paper shall have a minimum bursting strength of 15 PSI. Chipboard wrappers shall have a minimum bursting strength of not less than 45 PSI.

11.2 Roll towels shall be fully wrapped in accordance with manufacturer’s standard practice. Cluster packs will be acceptable.

11.3 Class IV towels shall be packed as described per the line items of the bid.

**12. Shipping Containers** - Unless otherwise specified, shipments shall be made in commercial containers, so constructed as to insure acceptance and safe delivery by common or other carrier. Each shipping container shall be clearly marked with the manufacturer’s name, product brand name or number, case count and towel size.

**13. Document Sources** -

Technical Assoc of the Pulp and Paper Industry  
TAPPI  
PO Box 105113  
Atlanta, GA 30348

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