



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**  
COMMANDER MILITARY SEALIFT COMMAND  
471 EAST C STREET  
NORFOLK VA 23511-2419

4490  
Ser N7/ 855  
1 Dec 25

From: Commander, Military Sealift Command  
To: Wilson Theriot, Southern Thrusters, LLC

Subj: QUALIFICATION OF SOUTHERN THRUSTERS, LLC TO PROVIDE SERVICE SUPPORT  
FOR BRUNVOLL AND SCHOTTEL THRUSTERS

Ref: (a) COMSC Instruction 4490.IC

1. Reference (a) establishes Military Sealift Command (MSC) policy and procedures for qualification requirements in the procurement of items critical to safety and the modification, repair and overhaul of those items assigned to Military Sealift Command vessels. The Instruction designates the MSC Engineering Director as the Design Control Activity (DCA) responsible to ensure that the design, production and performance standards are met for ship critical safety items. The instruction further assigns responsibility to the DCA to establish qualification requirements and to qualify and identify vendors that meet the criteria and standards for ship critical safety items.
2. Southern Thrusters, LLC requested consideration for qualification and submitted all required information. An MSC N7 Engineering DCA evaluation team reviewed that information and determined Southern Thrusters, LLC meets the relevant qualification criteria for service support for Brunvoll tunnel thrusters and Schottel tunnel and directional thrusters.
3. Southern Thrusters, LLC is deemed qualified to provide OEM-equivalent service support on MSC ships for Brunvoll tunnel thrusters and Schottel tunnel and directional thrusters. This qualification must be re-evaluated no later than 24 months from the date of this letter. Within its sole discretion, MSC may revoke qualification at any time if Southern Thrusters, LLC fails to provide quality maintenance and repair services, or if Southern Thrusters, LLC is unable to sustain the capabilities required in reference (a).
4. The MSC point of contact is Benjamin Hawbaker, ph: (757)341-6211; email: [msc\\_nonoem\\_qual@us.navy.mil](mailto:msc_nonoem_qual@us.navy.mil).



A. BUSK  
Engineering Director