Survival Craft for Commercial Fishing Industry Vessels

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Issue 16A

Carriage requirements are found in 46 CFR 28.120. The tables show the required survival craft for all vessel types, considering number of individuals on board, and area in which the vessel operates.

Inflatable liferafts: approval series 160.151 & 160.051 A and B

*Servicing requirement: Annually, except for a new liferaft which may defer first servicing until two years from date of first packing.

Required on Documented vessels, and Undocumented vessels with more than 16 individuals onboard: beyond 50 miles of the coastline (SOLAS A pack); and 20-50 miles of the coastline, cold waters (SOLAS B pack).

Inflatable liferafts: approval series 160.051

*Servicing requirement: Annually, except for a new liferaft which may defer first servicing until two years from date of first packing.

Required on Documented vessels, and Undocumented vessels with more than 16 persons onboard: operating 20-50 miles of the coastline, warm waters; and beyond the Boundary Line, 12-20 miles of the coastline, cold waters.

Rigid liferafts: approval series 160.018 and 160.118 (may substituted for 160.051 and 160.151)

*Servicing requirement: Annually inspect and repair as necessary.

Inflatable buoyant apparatus: approval series 160.010

Servicing requirement: Annually, except for a new apparatus which may defer first servicing until two years from date of first packing.

Required on Documented vessels, and Undocumented vessels with > 16 individuals onboard: beyond the Boundary Line, within 12 miles of the coastline, cold waters; > 36 feet in length, inside the Boundary Line, cold waters, or Lakes, bays, sounds, cold waters, or Rivers, cold waters; > 36 feet in length, Great Lakes, cold waters. Undocumented Vessels with not more than 16 individuals onboard: beyond 20 miles of the coastline; or beyond the Boundary Line, between 12-20 miles of the coastline, cold waters.

Life Float, approval series 160.027

Servicing requirement: Annually inspect, clean, and repair as necessary.

Required on Documented vessels & Undocumented vessels: operating beyond the Boundary Line, within 20 miles of the coastline, warm waters.

Buoyant apparatus, approval series 160.010

Servicing requirement: Annually inspect, clean, and repair as necessary.

Required on Documented Vessels & Undocumented Vessels with > 16 individuals onboard: beyond the Boundary Line, within 12 miles of the coastline, cold waters, < 36 feet in length; or inside the Boundary Line, any area, or Great Lakes, cold waters, < 36 feet in length; or on Great Lakes > 3 miles of the coastline, warm waters. Undocumented Vessels with not more than 16 individuals onboard: beyond the Boundary Line, within 12 miles of the coastline, cold waters; or inside the Boundary Line, any area, or Great Lakes, cold waters; or on Great Lakes > 3 miles of the coastline, warm waters.

A buoyant apparatus may be substituted for the otherwise required survival craft on a vessel > 36 feet in length with 3 or fewer individuals on board which operates within 12 miles of the coastline.

Note: Exceptions
A survival craft is not required on a vessel less than 36 feet in length with 3 or fewer individuals on board and which operates within 12 miles of the coastline.
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Equipment Packs

Common to both "A" & "B" Packs
(1) Heaving line
(1) Floating Knife
(1) Bailer
(2) Sponge
(2) Sea Anchor
(2) Paddles
(1) Relief valve stopper kit
(1) Label (contents)
(1) Repair Kit
(1) Pump
(1) Repair plug set
(1) Safety scissors
(1) Per Person: Sea sickness bags
(1) First Aid Kit
(2) Thermal Protective Aids
(1) Whistle
(1) Raft ID tube
(1) Signalling Mirror
(1) Waterproof Flashlight w/ spare bulb
(1) Life saving signal set

SOLAS Pack "A" extras
(3) Can openers
(1) Drinking cup
(1) Fishing kit
(6) Hand flares
(1) Per Person: Food Provisions
(4) Rocket signals
(2) Smoke signals
(1) Dozen Per Person: Water (125 ml)

Equipment required for 160.051 Coastal Service liferafts:
1. Rescue quoit and heaving line
2. Knife
3. Bailer
4. Sponge
5. Sea anchor
6. Paddles
7. Whistle
8. Flashlight
9. Signalling mirror
10. Survival instructions
11. Instructions for immediate action
12. Repair outfit
13. Pump or bellows
14. Plugs for pressure-relief valves

Differences between 160.051 and 160.151 series Liferafts
Construction and testing requirements for 160.051 life rafts (as compared to 160.151 liferafts):
1. Less stringent canopy requirements (may be uninsulated).
2. No viewing port required.
3. No Rainwater collection required.
4. Carrying capacity may be four persons.
5. The floor may be uninsulated.
6. The liferaft need be provided with boarding ramps only if the combined cross-section diameter of the buoyancy chambers is greater than 500 mm (19.5 in).
7. Less stringent stability requirements.
8. The liferaft need not have the manually controlled interior lamp described in Regulation III/39.6.3.
9. Less demanding drop test requirement.
10. Less demanding loading and seating test requirement (less freeboard allowed).
11. Less demanding cold-inflation test requirement.

Links
Lifesaving and Fire Safety Division web site (contact us): http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg5214/