

South African Maritime Safety Authority



Marine Notice No. 31 of 2004

Discontinuation of the practice of stamping South African manufactured lifejackets with a "SAMSA Approved" mark

TO LIFEJACKET MANUFACTURERS, PRINCIPAL OFFICERS AND SURVEYORS

Summary

This marine notice advises the lifejacket manufacturing industry that SAMSA is to discontinue the practice of individually stamping lifejackets with the word "APPROVED".

- 1 SAMSA has decided to discontinue the practice of stamping South African manufactured lifejackets with the word "APPROVED", with effect from the date of publication of this marine notice. However, the practice will continue to apply to lifejackets manufactured abroad.
- 2 The practice of stamping lifejackets was a form of approval requiring each lifejacket to be inspected and approved by a SAMSA surveyor. The stamp confirmed this inspection and approval.
- 3 SAMSA has recently adopted a type-test approval policy for lifejackets. If a particular lifejacket complies with the appropriate standard for the type of lifejacket concerned, SAMSA will issue a certificate of approval covering the use of that type of lifejacket on South African ships. Type testing is conducted by the South African Bureau of Standards (SABS).
- 4 The type-test approval policy requires that:
 - .1 each type of lifejacket is tested in accordance with SAMSA and SABS requirements;
 - .2 the type of lifejacket is covered by a SAMSA certificate of approval (valid for not more than 5 years);
 - .2 the production line is available for biannual audits by SAMSA;
 - .3 the audits confirm compliance with the requirements in subparagraph .1; and
 - .4 each lifejacket has screen printed into it's material the appropriate SAMSA and SABS approval marks.

Issued by and obtainable from:
The South African Maritime Safety Authority
Block E, Hatfield Gardens
333 Grosvenor Street
Hatfield, Pretoria

P O Box 13186
Hatfield 0028

Tel: +27 12 342 3049
Fax: +27 12 342 3160
E-mail: marinenotices@samsa.org.za

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