

South African Maritime Safety Authority



Marine Notice No. 32 of 2004

Use of personal floatation devices for children on non-SOLAS South African ships

TO OWNERS, SKIPPERS, AUTHORISED AGENTS, PARENTS, AGENTS AND SUPPLIERS OF SAFETY EQUIPMENT, AND PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

Summary

This marine notice permits, in the case of children on South African non-SOLAS ships, the use of a suitable personal floatation device instead of the SOLAS-type lifejacket for persons of less than 32 kg.

1 In terms of regulation 47(1) of the *Life-Saving Equipment Regulations, 1968*, and regulation 29(1) of the *Merchant Shipping (Small Vessel Safety) Regulations 2002*, permission is given for the following South African ships to carry, for children on board, an approved personal floatation device (PFD) instead of the SOLAS-type lifejacket for persons of less than 32 kg:

- .1 ships of 25 gross tonnage or more not making international voyages;
- .2 small vessels;
- .3 pleasure vessels.

2 This equivalent arrangement is subject to the PFD being covered by a certificate of approval issued by SAMSA and having printed or stamped on it the SAMSA-approved and "SABS 1417" marks.

3 SAMSA encourages the use of the PFD because of its comfortable and secure fit compared to that of the SOLAS-type lifejacket. SAMSA also strongly recommends that children wear them at all times while on board.

4 PFDs come in different sizes and it is important, therefore, that a child wears one of an appropriate size. Wearing an inappropriate size could be hazardous.

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12 August 2004

SM6/5/2/1