

### APPROVAL OF SERVICE STATIONS FOR: LIFERAFT, RESCUE BOAT, MARINE EVACUATION SYSTEM, LIFEBOAT, LAUNCHING APPLIANCES AND ON LOAD RELEASE GEAR

TO ALL SERVICING STATIONS, SHIP OWNERS, SHIP OPERATORS, MASTERS, PRINCIPAL OFFICERS, AND OTHER INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

ISSUE DATE	EXPIRY DATE	REFERENCE
1 December 2022	30 November 2027 or unless withdrawn	SM6/5/2/1/MN

#### Marine Notice's affected

Cancelled or superseded:	Read in conjunction with:
MN12 of 2019	Not applicable

#### SUMMARY

This Marine Notice provides guidance on the requirements of Regulation 25(2) and Annex 24 Part 1(25) of the Life Saving Equipment Regulations, 1968 as amended. This Marine Notice introduces the amendments to SOLAS Chapter III, Part B, Section I, Regulation 20, as effective from 01/01/20. (SOLAS III/B/1/20)

This Marine Notice draws attention to the requirement to be approved by the Authority, prior to servicing any Liferaft, Rescue Boat, Marine Evacuation Systems, Lifeboat (including Freefall Lifeboats), Launching Appliances and On Load Release Gear on any South African vessel.

#### 1. LEGISLATION

##### *Life Saving Equipment Regulations of 1968 as amended – regulations 25(2) states:*

**25(2)** A liferaft which is required to comply with Part I of Annex 7, shall be surveyed at a servicing station approved by the Authority or at the works of the manufacturers at intervals of not more than 12 months: Provided that in any case where this is impracticable, such intervals may be extended by the Authority by a period not exceeding three months.

##### *Life Saving Equipment Regulations of 1968 as amended – Annex 24 - 1/25 states:*

##### **Annex 24: Part 1(25)**

Every rescue boat shall be serviced annually by a service station approved for that purpose by the Authority.

##### **SOLAS Chapter III, Part B, Section I, Regulation 20**

**3.1** Maintenance, testing and inspections of life-saving appliances shall be carried out based on the guidelines developed by the Organization and in a manner having due regard to ensuring reliability of such appliances

**8** Servicing of inflatable liferafts, inflatable lifejackets, marine evacuation systems and maintenance and repair of inflated rescue boats

8.1.2 at an approved servicing station which is competent to service them, maintains proper servicing facilities and uses only properly trained personnel.

**IMO MSC.1/Circ.1277 Interim Recommendation on conditions for Authorization of Service Providers for Lifeboats, Launching Appliances and On Load Release Gear**

**1 Administrations** should ensure that the thorough examination, operational testing, repair, and overhaul of lifeboats, launching appliances and on-load release gear are carried out in accordance with SOLAS regulation III/20 by service providers authorized by them that are qualified in these operations for each make and type of equipment for which they provide the service.

**Resolution A.761(18) Recommendation on conditions for the approval of Servicing Stations for inflatable life rafts**

**1 Administrations** should ensure that the periodic survey of inflatable life rafts is performed at servicing stations that have demonstrated competence to service and repack rafts, maintain an adequate facility and use only properly trained personnel. To be approved, servicing stations should have demonstrated this capability for inflatable liferafts of each manufacturer whose liferafts they are competent to service...

***(SAMSA will also consider granting approval based on a successful assessment by a Recognized Organization with whom the Administration has a Service Agreement with, provided the service station can provide the Administration with proper documentary evidence of such assessment and valid certification issued by the Recognized Organization)***

**Resolution 402(96) + Corr.1 Requirements for maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of lifeboats and rescue boats, launching appliances and release gear**

**3 AUTHORIZATIONS**

3.1 Administrations shall ensure that the thorough examination, operational testing, repair, and overhaul of equipment (see paragraphs 4.2 and 4.3) shall be carried out in accordance with SOLAS Regulation III/20 by service providers authorized in accordance with section 7.

3.2 The requirements in section 7 shall equally apply to manufacturers when they are acting as authorized service providers.

**7 REQUIREMENTS FOR AUTHORIZATION OF SERVICE PROVIDERS**

7.1 Authorization as required by paragraph 3.1 shall include, as a minimum, demonstration of:

.1 employment and documentation of personnel certified in accordance with a recognized national, international or industry standard as applicable, or a manufacturer's established certification programme. In either case, the certification programme shall comply with section 8 for each make and type of equipment for which service is to be provided.

.2 availability of sufficient tools, calibration of those tools (if applicable) and in particular any specialized tools specified in the manufacturer's instructions, including portable tools as needed for work to be carried out on board ship.

.3 access to appropriate parts and accessories as specified for maintenance and repair.

.4 availability of the manufacturer's instructions for repair work involving disassembly or adjustment of on-load release mechanisms and davit winches; and

.5 a documented and certified quality system, which covers at least the following:

.1 code of conduct for personnel involved in the relevant activity.

.2 maintenance and calibration of measuring tools and gauges.

- .3 training programmes for personnel.
- .4 supervision and verification to ensure compliance with operational procedures.
- .5 recording and reporting of information.
- .6 quality management of subsidiaries and agents.
- .7 job preparation; and
- .8 periodic review of work process procedures, complaints, corrective actions, and issuance, maintenance, and control of documents.

Note: A documented quality system complying with the most current version of the ISO 9000 series and including the above items would be considered acceptable.

7.2 Administrations shall ensure that information regarding authorized service providers is made available.

7.3 In cases where a manufacturer is no longer in business or no longer provides technical support, Administrations may authorize service providers for the equipment based on prior authorization for the equipment and/or long-term experience and demonstrated expertise as an authorized service provider; or as declared in the valid documentation/certification provided by a Recognized Organization with whom SAMSA has a valid agreement with.

7.4 Issuance and maintenance of authorization document:

.1 upon successful initial audit of a service provider, an authorization document shall be issued by the Administration defining the scope of services provided (e.g., makes and types of equipment). The expiry date shall be clearly written on the document.

.2 the Administration shall ensure that work continues, e.g., by periodic audit, to be carried out in accordance with these Requirements, and shall withdraw the authorization of service providers who are not in compliance; and

.3 the Administration may accept or recognize service providers authorized by other Administrations or by their Recognized Organizations.

Note: The SOLAS Convention is a schedule to the Merchant Shipping Act No. 57 of 1951, thus giving effect to the requirements of the Convention.

## 2. DEFINITIONS

2.1.1 *Approved servicing station* means a Service Provider approved by the Authority

2.1.2 *Authority* means South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA)

2.1.3 *Liferaft* means a liferaft complying with the requirements of Regulation 25(1) of the LSA Regulations.

2.1.4 *Life Saving Appliances* means Life-rafts, David-launched life-rafts, Rescue Boat (including Fast Rescue Boats), Lifeboats (including Freefall Lifeboats), Launching Appliances and On Load Release Gear (*in terms of this Marine Notice*)

2.1.5 *Lifeboat* means a lifeboat complying with the requirements of Regulation 22 or 23 of the LSA Regulations.

2.1.6 *Rescue boat* means an approved inflated rescue boat referred to in Regulation 31A of the LSA Regulations.

2.1.7 *Marine evacuation system* is an appliance for the rapid transfer of persons from the embarkation deck of a ship to a floating survival craft.

2.1.8 *On-load release mechanism* means a release mechanism which releases the survival craft/rescue boat/fast rescue boat with load on the hooks.

2.1.9 *Organization* means International Maritime Organization (IMO)

2.1.10 *SOLAS* means the International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 as amended

### 3. REQUIREMENTS

- 3.1 SAMSA has adopted the following:
- 3.1.1 "Recommendation on Conditions for the Approval of Servicing Stations for Inflatable Liferrafts" as contained in IMO Resolution A.761 (81), as amended.
  - 3.1.2 "Interim Recommendation on Conditions for Authorization of Service Providers for Lifeboats, Launching Appliances and On Load Release Gear" as contained in IMO MSC.1/Circ.1277
  - 3.1.3 Measures to Prevent Accidents with Lifeboats as contained in IMO MSC.1/Circ.1206/Rev.1
  - 3.1.4 Requirements for Maintenance, Thorough Examination, Operational Testing, Overhaul and repair of Lifeboats and Rescue Boats, Launching Appliances and Release Gear as contained in IMO Resolution MSC.402(96) + Corr.1
- 3.2 All Service Providers, wishing to overhaul and repair Life Saving Appliances on South African vessels, as prescribed by Life Saving Equipment Regulations, SOLAS Chapter III/B/1/20, Res.A761 (18), MSC.1/Circ.1277 and MSC.402 (96) + Corr 1, shall be approved by SAMSA.
- 3.3 Service Providers shall ensure that the station is inspected by SAMSA on an ANNUAL basis so that the Certificate of Approval (CER-701-12-03 Service Provider approval for Liferrafts, Rescue Boats, Lifeboats and Launching Appliances) may be endorsed. (See Annex B)
- 3.4 SAMSA may conduct Ad-hoc Audits (See Annex C) at any time during the validity period of the Certificate of Approval. Should SAMSA discover any serious findings during these audits, the Service Provider may be subjected to a full detailed inspection.
- 3.5 Any approval by SAMSA shall remain subject to:
- 3.5.1 Valid Certificate of Approval
  - 3.5.2 Valid Manufacturer's Certificates of Approval or,
  - 3.5.3 Valid Assessment and certification issued to the service provider by one of SAMSA's accepted Recognized Organizations
  - 3.5.4 SAMSA Annual Inspections
  - 3.5.5 Service Providers adherence to the conditions set by the Authority
  - 3.5.6 Ad-Hoc Audits conducted at SAMSA's discretion

### 4. ANNEXES

REFERENCE	HYPERLINK
ANNEX A	<a href="#">INS-701-01-02 Approval of Liferaft, Rescue Boat and Lifeboat Service Provider</a>
ANNEX B	<a href="#">CER-701-12-03 Service Provider approval for Liferrafts, Rescue Boats, Lifeboats, Launching Appliances</a>
ANNEX C	<a href="#">RPT-701-14-01 Audit Report Approved Service Provider (LSA)</a>
ANNEX D	<a href="#">List of Approved LSA Service Providers</a>
ANNEX E	<a href="#">SER-701-01-01 Service Request Form</a>

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