



Gibraltar Maritime Administration

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Shipping Guidance Notice – 079

Extended Service Interval (30 Month) liferafts

To: Ship Owners, Operators, Master's, Classification Societies and Recognised Organisations

References:

- SOLAS Chapter III, Regulation 4
- SOLAS Chapter III, Regulation 20
- LSA Code, Chapter IV
- IMO Circular - MSC.1/Circ.1328
- Marine Equipment Directive (MED)

Application:

IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1328, allows servicing intervals of up to 30 months for inflatable liferafts when specially packed to allow for extended service intervals. Gibraltar Maritime Administration for Gibraltar Registered ships intending to carry such liferafts, for these to be assessed as compliant with the requirements of IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1328 as part of the type approval by the Notified Body which carries out the Marine Equipment Directive (MED) approval. The MED certificate for extended service interval liferafts will include details of the extended service interval arrangements.

Operators are reminded that, although servicing is only required at extended service intervals (not exceeding 30 months), MSC.1/Circ.1328 requires an annual on board inspection to be undertaken by qualified persons, who have been adequately trained and certificated by the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM).

At every 30 months servicing interval of a davit launched inflatable liferaft, a 10% overload static load test is to be carried out with the liferaft suspended from its lifting hook or bridle, in accordance with the OEM's servicing instructions.

In accordance with MSC.1/Circ.1328, Section 4.1.1, any requests for extension of the 10 year limitation may be extended if real time verification justifies acceptance by the Administration. Applications for such extensions will be reviewed on a 'case by case' basis by the Administration.

Steve Gomez – Senior Marine Surveyor

For & on behalf of the Maritime Administrator

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