



TANGGAPAN NG KOMANDANTE
(Office of the Commandant)
PUNONGHIMPILAN TANOD BAYBAYIN NG PILIPINAS
(Headquarters Philippine Coast Guard)
139 25th Street, Port Area
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HPCG/CG-8

22 February 1994

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
NUMBER.....05-94

APPROVAL SERVICING AND EQUIPAGE
OF INFLATABLE LIFERAFTS

I. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Memo Circular is to provide a policy in the implementation of regulations 38 & 39, Part C Chapter III, International Convention of the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 / 83 Amendments.

II. SCOPE:

This Memo Circular is applicable to inflatable liferafts for use in international and coastwise voyages and set up requirements for servicing stations for its purpose.

III. CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS:

Inflatable liferafts for use in the Philippine registered vessels shall be of the type approved by the Commandant of the Philippine Coast Guard. Its construction shall meet the requirements set forth in Regulation 38 of the International Convention of Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 / 83 Amendments.

IV. SERVICING BY PCG ACCREDITED SERVICE STATION

The Philippine Coast Guard should ensure that periodic servicing of inflatable liferafts is performed at servicing stations that have demonstrated competence to service and repack rafts, maintain an adequate facility and employ properly trained personnel.

Only PCG Accredited Servicing Stations are authorized to service inflatable liferafts and shall pass the following requirements:

1. Document Requirements:

Attached to support their basic request relative to accreditation are hereunder to wit.

- a. Philippines registered business firms duly accredited with the proper government regulatory agencies like the Security and Exchange Commission, Department of Trade and Industry, Bureau of Domestic Trade, etc with at least 60% ownership by the Philippine citizen (s).
- b. Sanitary Permits Issued by the City/Municipality Health
- c. Mayor's Permit issued by the City/Municipality Mayor
- d. List of Technician to include proofs of competency like certificate from the manufacturer

2. Location of Servicing Station:

The location should not be an area zone for hazardous industrial activities. The building layout plan shall be displayed, giving particular need to:

- a. establishment of safe separation distances to minimize any "domino effects".
- b. location of hazardous processes and substances relative to the location of critical safety equipment and instruments.

Servicing stations maybe allowed being located in light industrial areas provided it is at least 100 meters away from factories which uses flames or burning furnaces, stores or services Liquid Petroleum Gas and other inflammable gases, including foundry shops, gasoline stations etc.

3. Restriction/Duration:

- a. Inflatable liferaft servicing stations should not be in any way affiliated or be partly or wholly owned by any shipping company or shipowner/operator.
- b. Certificate of Accreditation is renewable annually, provided the requirements herein specified are being maintained.

4. Provisions of Servicing Stations:

In order to be approved, servicing stations should have demonstrated their capability to service inflatable liferafts of each manufacturer whose liferafts they service and should comply with the following:

- a. Prior to initial approval, the servicing station's sites and facilities shall be visually inspected and checked. Pictures shall be taken of the site and its facilities.

- b.** Servicing of inflatable liferafts should be carried out in fully enclosed spaces only. There should be ample room for at least six (6) inflatable liferafts expected to be serviced at any time.
- c.** The servicing space should be well lighted and should be efficiently ventilated but free from draughts.
- d.** The temperature and, when necessary, the relative humidity in the servicing space should be sufficiently controlled to ensure that the servicing and repairs can be effectively carried out.
- e.** The floor should be provided with a clean surface sufficiently smooth to ensure that no damage will occur to the liferaft fabric.
- f.** Separate areas or rooms should be provided for:
 - 1. Liferafts awaiting servicing, repair or delivery
 - 2. The repair of glass fiber containers and painting of CO₂ cylinders
 - 3. Materials or spare parts; and
 - 4. Administrative purposes
- g.** Means should be provided in the liferaft storage space to ensure that the liferafts in containers or valises are neither stored on top of each other in more than two tiers unless supported by shelving not subjected to excessive loads.
- h.** Spares should be stored in a safe and secured magazine well away from the servicing and storage spaces.

5. Tools:

- a.** Sufficient tools should be available for the servicing of liferafts and release gear in accordance with the requirements of the manufacturer, including:
 - 1. Suitable and accurate manometer or pressure gauges, thermometers and barometers which can be easily read;
 - 2. Air pump(s) for inflating and deflating liferafts, together with a means of cleaning and drying the air and including the necessary high pressure hoses and adaptors.
 - 3. A suitable scale for weighing inflation gas cylinders with sufficient accuracy.
 - 4. Sufficient for gas blowing through the inlet system of the liferafts.
- b.** Procedure and arrangements should be made to ensure that each gas cylinders are properly filled and gas tight before fitting to a liferaft.

- c. Sufficient materials and accessories should be available for repairing liferafts together with replacements of the emergency equipment.
- d. When servicing davit-launched liferafts, adequate means should be provided for the overload testing of such liferafts.

6. Competent Technicians:

- a. Servicing and repair work should only be carried out by qualified persons who have been adequately trained by the liferaft manufacturer (to the satisfaction of PCG Inspector).
- b. The technicians shall have appropriate training and competence in servicing of inflatable liferafts by having shown proof of accredited training with the authorized manufacturer.
- c. Technicians trained for specified brand names or similar types shall be limited only to that type(s)

7. Access Arrangements/Markers:

- a. Arrangements for the manufacturer shall be made available to the service station to wit:
 - 1. Changes to servicing manuals, servicing bulletins and instructions.
 - 2. Proper materials and replacement parts.
 - 3. Bulletins or instructions from the PCG if any.
 - 4. Training program/s or schedule/s for servicing technicians.
- b. All liferafts shall be marked with the following:
 - 1. Maker's name or trademark
 - 2. Serial Number
 - 3. Date of Manufacture (Month and Year)
 - 4. Name of Approving Authority
 - 5. Number of Approving Authority
 - 6. Number of Persons permitted to accommodate over each entrance in characters not less than 100 MM in height of a color contrasting with that of the liferafts.
 - 7. Date of servicing
 - 8. Name and location of servicing station.

V. APPROVAL / SURVEY / INSPECTION:

- a. After initial approval, Head, Vessel Safety Division shall arranged for the frequent inspection of servicing stations to ensure that

manufacturer's standards are maintained and the requirements of this Regulations are complied with.

- b. Every inflatable liferaft and hydrostatic release unit shall be at intervals not exceeding 12 months. However incases where it is proper and reasonable, the interval may be extended to 15 months.

VI. EQUIPMENT:

All inflatable liferafts shall be provided with equipment as provided for under Regulation

VII. RESCISSION CLAUSE:

This Memorandum Circular rescinds Policy Memorandum No. 01 dated August 1971.

VIII. EFFECTIVITY:

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect one month after its publication in a Newspaper of General Circulation or fifteen Days after submission to the University of the Philippine Law Center.

IX. RESPONSIBILITY:

- a. All District/Station Commanders are responsible for the implementation of this Memorandum Circular and shall disseminate this publication to shipowners/operators and Inflatable liferafts service stations.
- b. The Head, Vessel Safety Division shall ensure that information regarding servicing facilities is made available to mariners.
- c. District Commanders shall inspect and evaluate all inflatable liferaft servicing stations within their respective areas of responsibility and submit results to HPCG (Attn O CG-8).
- d. O/CG-8 shall review and process all application for PCG accreditation for inflatable liferafts servicing stations.
- e. All PCG accredited inflatable liferaft servicing stations shall submit a monthly report to HPCG (Attn: O/CG-8) of the number of inflatable liferafts serviced together with the names of the vessels and operators.

(Signed)
DARIO T FAJARDO
COMMO AFP

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:
O/CG-8 /RRR-AOCnfs:15/06/98:6138

ALLAN O CORPUZ
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