

Submission: **SR02-07**

**Offshore Special Regulations - 5.01.2**

Lifejackets

A submission from the Royal Yachting Association

Proposal:

To require lifejackets to:

1. meet the ISO standard with regard to buoyancy
2. have a compressed gas inflation system
3. be fitted with crotch/thigh straps
4. be fitted with light

Delete existing 5.01.2 and replace with:

**5.01.2 A lifejacket shall have:**

- |   |   |                           |
|---|---|---------------------------|
| — | <b><u>a) at least 150N buoyancy, arranged to securely suspend an unconscious man face upwards at approximately 45 degrees to the water surface - in accordance with ISO 12402 - 3 (level 150) or equivalent (for persons of larger than average build the ISO 12402 – 2 (level 275) jacket should be considered);</u></b> | <b><u>MoMu1,2,3,4</u></b> |
| — | <b><u>b) a crotch strap or thigh straps;</u></b>  | <b><u>MoMu1,2,3,4</u></b> |
| — | <b><u>c) a lifejacket light in accordance with SOLAS LSA code 2.2.3 (white, &gt;0.75 candelas, &gt;8 hours);</u></b>  | <b><u>MoMu1,2,3,4</u></b> |
|   | <b><u>d) if inflatable have a compressed gas inflation system.</u></b>  | <b><u>MoMu1,2,3,4</u></b> |
|   | <b><u>It is strongly recommended that a lifejacket has:-</u></b>  |                           |
| — | <b><u>e) a splashguard/sprayhood is recommended. See ISO 12402 - 8;</u></b>   | <b><u>MoMu1,2,3,4</u></b> |
| — | <b><u>f) All PLB units, as with other types of EPIRB, should be properly registered with the appropriate authority.</u></b>   | <b><u>MoMu1,2,3,4</u></b> |

Current Position:

~~5.01.2 It is strongly recommended that a lifejacket has:-~~ =

- ~~== a) a lifejacket light in accordance with SOLAS LSA code 2.2.3 (white, >0.75 candelas, >8 hours);~~ MeMu1,2,3,4
- ~~== b) at least 150N buoyancy, arranged to securely suspend an unconscious man face upwards at approximately 45 degrees to the water surface in accordance with prEN ISO 12402 - 3 (Class C) or equivalent (for persons of larger than average build the ISO 275N jacket should be considered);~~ MeMu1,2,3,4
- ~~== c) a crotch strap or thigh straps;~~ MeMu1,2,3,4
- ~~== d) a splashguard/sprayhood is recommended. See EN394;~~ MeMu1,2,3,4
- ~~== e) All PLB units, as with other types of EPIRB, should be properly registered with the appropriate authority.~~ MeMu1,2,3,4

Reason:

1. Lifejackets with buoyancy in accordance with prEN ISO 12402 - 3 (Class C) or equivalent are available internationally.
2. An inflatable lifejacket is significantly better with gas inflation. Cold shock on entering the water makes it difficult to inflate a lifejacket orally.
3. Crotch straps are vital to prevent the bladder of the lifejacket riding up. Crotch straps increase the survival time of a man overboard.
4. Lifejacket lights increase the chance of a MOB being located in poor visibility or at night significantly.