



Merchant Shipping Notice MSN-0025

IMMARBE

International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize

PROCEDURES FOR APPROVAL OF ORGANIZATIONS SERVICING AND INSPECTING LIFE-SAVING AND LAUNCHING APPLIANCES

ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS AND OFFICERS, DEPUTY REGISTRARS, RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS, GENERAL SAFETY INSPECTORS, AGENTS.

MSN Superseded:

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This Merchant Shipping Notice is intended to provide all Shipowners/Operators, Company ISM managers and other parties with our procedures for approval of an Organization other than the manufacturer, manufacturer's representative and certified personnel concerning the Guidelines for Periodic Servicing and Maintenance of Lifeboats, Launching Appliances and on-load release gear as required by the Maritime Safety Committee in its Resolution MSC.152(78) which entered into force on 1st July 2006.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1. SOLAS Reg. III/20.3.1 «Maintenance» was amended by MSC.152(78) to state that maintenance, testing and inspections of life-saving appliances shall be carried out based on the guidelines adopted by the Organization in MSC/Circ.1093, subsequently superseded by **MSC.1/Circ.1206 dated May 26, 2006.**
- 1.2. These guidelines relate to the application of the ISM-Code to periodic servicing and maintenance of lifeboats, liferafts, rescue boats and fast rescue boats arrangements, their launching appliances and release gear.
- 1.3. SOLAS Reg. III/20.11 «Periodic servicing of launching appliances and on-load release gear» was also amended to require launching appliances to be subjected to a thorough examination and dynamic tests at the annual surveys required for the Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate and the Passenger Ship Safety Certificate.
- 1.4. Under these guidelines, all inspections, servicing and repairs other than weekly, monthly and routine maintenance (as defined by the manufacturer) are to be carried out by **the manufacturer, the manufacturer's representative or a person appropriately trained and certified by the manufacturer.**
- 1.5. However, under exceptional circumstances there might be practical difficulties encountered by ship managers to locate a manufacturer certified facilities. Under this circumstance, in accordance with paragraph 9 in Annex 1 of the MSC.1/Circ. 1206, this Administration may authorize other Organization.

2. DEFINITIONS

- 2.1. **Company** means the owner of the ship or any other organization or person such as the manager, or the bareboat charterer, who has assumed the responsibility for operation of the ship from the owner of the ship and who on assuming such responsibility has agreed to take over all the duties and responsibilities imposed by the International Safety Management Code. (SOLAS-IX, Reg. 1)
- 2.2. **Organization** is a competent company/service provider other than the manufacturer, the manufacturer's representative or a person appropriately trained and certified by the manufacturer.
- 2.3. **Properly trained and certified personnel** means a competent person, familiar with the life-saving and launching appliances and on-load system, inclusive a crewmember, who has the suitable documentary evidence of competence and training, knowledge, skills and experience necessary to safely complete the service, inspection and work to be done, as provided and certified by the manufacturer.

3. APPLICATION

- 3.1. The amendments contained in MSC.152(78) applicable to all SOLAS vessels.

4. QUALIFICATIONS OF AN ORGANIZATION

- 4.1. The Administration may authorize an Organization to carry out the inspection and servicing of life-saving and launching appliances and on-load release gear provided that the Organization meets the following criteria:
 - 4.1.1. The Organization had supplied evidence that personnel has been trained in servicing of life-saving and launching appliances and on-load releasing gear, preferably by the manufacturer of the equipment,
 - 4.1.2. The Organization has documented procedures and instructions for carrying out the testing and examination of life-saving and launching appliances and on-load releasing gear. Such procedures and instructions should ensure that the level of performance tests is in compliance with the relevant technical standards of the manufacturer,
 - 4.1.3. The Organization had supplied evidence that it has accumulated a satisfactory degree of experience in such activities,
 - 4.1.4. The manufacturer's maintenance documentation for the release gear is available to the Organization and maintained up to date,
 - 4.1.5. Records of training program for technicians had been made available,
 - 4.1.6. Records to verify traceability of parts supplied are maintained, and
 - 4.1.7. **It is preferable, although not mandatory, that the Organization is an approved service provider of the attending Classification Society or Recognized Organization.**

- 4.1.8. Any other requirement as may be required by the Classification Society/Recognized Organization responsible for the Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate/Passenger Ship Safety Certificate.

5. PROCEDURES TO APPROVE AN ORGANIZATION

- 5.1. Any proposal for appointment needs to be submitted to the Administration together with the following supporting information:
 - 5.1.1. Details of the proposed Organization (name, address, etc.) as well as the name of the attending person,
 - 5.1.2. Certificate of Approval from the Classification Society/Recognized Organization with details of the type of services approved to provide (If the Organization comply with paragraph 4.1.7 above),
 - 5.1.3. Name of Manufacturer and the type of lifeboats and launching appliances to be serviced,
 - 5.1.4. Date and location where the service is to be provided,
 - 5.1.5. The confirmation from the manufacturer, manufacturer's representative or certified personnel are not available or unable to provide the service,
 - 5.1.6. A confirmation from the proposed Organization or personnel that has the ability to carry out the task in accordance with "Guidelines for Periodic Servicing and Maintenance of Lifeboats, Launching Appliances and On-load Release Gear" (MSC.1/Circ.1206).
 - 5.1.7. Confirmation from the Classification Society/Recognized Organization to the effect that their Surveyor will be in attendance during the inspections and services.
- 5.2. In the case of proposals to approve **properly trained and certified personnel** that have been authorized to provide the services on behalf of the manufacturer, copy of the **Training Certificate or similar** issued by the manufacturer needs to be provided to our Administration in addition to meeting the criteria contained in 5.1.
- 5.3. This Administration will only accept a Training Certificate or similar as refer to in 5.2, if issued for the specific manufacturer's products and issued for the certified personnel.

6. STATEMENT OF EXTENSION

- 6.1. In the event that the thorough examination of the survival craft launching appliances and dynamic load test cannot be conducted along with the annual survey for the Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate within the window period (+/-3 months) due to exceptional circumstances, a **Statement of Extension** needs to be requested from the Administration.
- 6.2. The issuance of Statement of Extension shall be determined in coordination with the Classification Society or Recognized Organization which may require additional requirements.
- 6.3. The Statement of Extension shall be issued at an established fee.

7. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ORGANIZATION

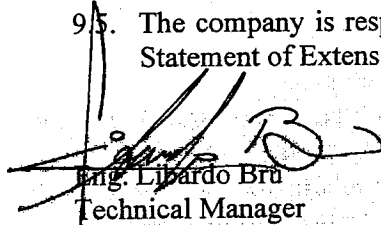
- 7.1. Upon completion of the servicing and inspection of the life-saving and launching appliances and on-load release gear a **Certificate of Inspection** or similar should be issued valid until the last date of the window period (+/-3 months) of the Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate/ Passenger Ship Safety Certificate.
- 7.2. A copy of the Certificate of Inspection or similar should be submitted to the Administration.

8. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY OR RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

- 8.1. The servicing and inspection of the life-saving and launching appliances and on-load release gear should be done in the presence of the ship's Classification Society's or Recognized Organization's surveyor who shall verify on behalf of IMMARBE that the servicing and inspection provided by the Organization is carried out in accordance with MSC.1/Circ.1206.
- 8.2. The Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate/Passenger Ship Safety Certificate will be endorsed **only** once the Classification Society or Recognized Organization has been satisfied that the servicing and inspection of the life-saving and launches appliances and on-load release gear has been carried out in accordance of the MSC. 1/Circ.1206.

9. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COMPANY

- 9.1. The company is responsible for the development of the procedures covering all activities during the servicing and maintenance of the life-saving and launching appliances.
- 9.2. The company shall ensure that the inspection, examination, servicing, tests referred to in MSC.1/Circ.1206 are completed at the date of the survey (Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate/Passenger Ship Safety Certificate).
- 9.3. The company shall ensure that the requirements stated on section 5 of this MSN are submitted in a timely manner.
- 9.4. The company is responsible to locate the **manufacturer, the manufacturer's representative or a person appropriately trained and certified by the manufacturer** of the life-saving and launching appliances and on-load release gear on board.
- 9.5. The company is responsible for covering the costs related to the issuance and delivery of the Statement of Extension.


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