
**Ships and marine technology —
Servicing of inflatable life-saving
appliances —**

**Part 3:
Inflatable lifejackets**

*Navires et technologie maritime — Entretien des dispositifs
de sauvetage gonflables —*

Partie 3: Gilets de sauvetage gonflables



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Published in Switzerland

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 8, *Ships and marine technology*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Maritime safety*.

A list of all parts in the ISO 18079 series can be found on the ISO website.

Introduction

The IMO International Convention on the Safety of Life at Sea of 1974 (SOLAS 74) Chapter III Regulation 20.8 sets requirements for the annual servicing and inspection of inflatable life rafts, inflatable lifejackets, marine evacuation systems, and maintenance and repair of inflated rescue boats on ships. This regulation refers to the IMO Recommendation on the conditions for the approval of servicing stations for inflatable life rafts Assembly resolution A.761(18).

However, this resolution only provides specific standards for the servicing, maintenance and repair of inflatable life rafts and remains silent for other types of inflatable or inflated life-saving appliances mentioned by SOLAS Chapter III Regulation 20.8 and consequently, the application of this statutory requirement could vary widely in practice.

The ISO 18079 series addresses those areas in which the IMO recommendation is silent, in order to facilitate consistent implementation by maritime Administrations. It is intended for use as a companion to the IMO recommendation and also to encompass all other relevant life-saving appliances covered by the ISO 18079 series and not necessarily regulated by IMO instruments.

The IMO Recommendation on the conditions for the approval of servicing stations for inflatable life rafts Assembly resolution A.761(18) specifies obligations and responsibilities for Administrations, manufacturers and ship owners. While the ISO 18079 series covers the requirements of this resolution, it has been rearranged and reformulated in order to enable a single entity, i.e. a servicing station, to attain certification in accordance with the ISO 18079 series. This does not mean that the specified obligations and responsibilities are lifted, delegated or otherwise transferred by authority from those parties to the single entity being certified.

This document addresses the servicing of inflatable lifejackets and it is intended for use as a companion to the IMO recommendation and also to encompass all other relevant inflatable lifejackets not regulated by IMO/SOLAS.

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Ships and marine technology — Servicing of inflatable life-saving appliances —

Part 3: Inflatable lifejackets

1 Scope

This document, in conjunction with ISO 18079-1, provides provisions for servicing stations conducting servicing of inflatable lifejackets, including, but not limited to, those subject to SOLAS III/20.8.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 18079-1, *Ships and marine technology — Part 1: Servicing of inflatable life-saving appliances*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 18079-1 apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>

4 Servicing of inflatable lifejackets

Inflatable lifejacket servicing shall be carried out in accordance with the requirements of ISO 18079-1 and the appropriate manufacturer's servicing manual. The tests and procedures shall include, but are not limited to, the following.

4.1 Inspection of the cover for damage.

4.2 Inspection of inflatable bladder for damage.

4.3 A pressure test shall be carried out, by inflation of the lifejacket with dry compressed air, to the pressure required by the manufacturer's servicing manual.

4.4 The lifejacket shall be subjected to a thorough inspection in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions including, but not limited to:

- a) inspection of reflective tape;
- b) inspection of straps for damage;
- c) inspection of buckles for correct function and damage;

- d) inspection of lifejacket fabric for damage (wearing and abrasion);
- e) inspection of seams for slippage or edge lifting;
- f) inspection of oral inflation tubes;
- g) inspection of whistle for function and mounting;
- h) inspection of inflator unit including inspection of any inflator system sub-component parts and expiry date(s), e.g. cellulose bobbins and tablets;
- i) inspection of CO₂ cylinder for weight, corrosion and proper charge;
- j) inspection of lifejacket light for function and expiry date.

4.5 The marking shall be checked for compliance with the requirements and the date of current service and next service shall be clearly marked.

4.6 A check shall be made to ensure that the appliance and the atmosphere are dry when the appliance is being repacked.

4.7 Any repairs and renewals shall only be carried out with the manufacturer's instruction or servicing manuals.

5 Servicing records

5.1 Overview

Records of servicing shall be prepared and maintained for at least 5 years after the date of service. The record shall include, but not be limited to, the following.

5.2 General information

- a) Identification of servicing station and certified technician.
- b) Identification and contact details of customer.
- c) Lifejacket serial number and/or lot/batch number(s).
- d) Date of manufacture.
- e) Make, model and size.
- f) Approval, where applicable.
- g) Date of servicing.
- h) Information on previous service.

5.3 Information about lifejacket condition when received

If a non-conformity has to be raised, information about the reason and name of the previous servicing station shall be recorded and submitted to the manufacturer without delay.

5.4 Inspection and test information to be recorded

- a) Result of pressure test.
- b) Weight of CO₂ cylinder.

- c) Result of functional test on light.
- d) Batch numbers and expiry dates (as applicable) of all component parts as received (inflator system, cartridge, bobbin, light).
- e) Inspection schedule, faults found and work carried out.
- f) Log card and/or re-inspection certificate.

5.5 Condemnation documentation for lifejackets

When condemning a lifejacket, the following information shall be recorded and forwarded to the manufacturer (an example of such a form is shown in [Annex A](#)), if available and applicable:

- a) lifejacket serial number and/or lot/batch number(s);
- b) ship owner;
- c) name and IMO number of ship;
- d) flag state of ship;
- e) type of vessel hosting the lifejacket;
- f) cause of condemnation.

5.6 Control objects to be included in the inspection schedule

The inspection schedule, which can be acquired from the manufacturer, shall address, but not necessarily be limited to, the following objects.

- a) Lifejacket cover.
Materials, straps, buckles and marking.
- b) Lifejacket external.
Fabric, seams, reflective tape, buddy line, grab loop, lifejacket light, whistle and marking.
- c) Lifejacket inflation system.
Inflator unit (bobbins, tablets, cartridges), CO₂ cylinder, oral inflation tube, including mouth piece valve, relief valves, inflator system connection/fitting to bladder, e.g. sealing ring, manifold, valve.

6 Deficiency reports

Records shall be prepared on lifejackets serviced, where the servicing frequency is violated, defects found, repairs carried out and units condemned and withdrawn from service. Such records shall be submitted without undue delay to the manufacturer and subsequently be made available to the Administration as and when required. [Annex A](#) shows an example of a condemnation form.