§ 25.10–3 Navigation light certification requirements.

(a) Except as provided by paragraph (b) of this section, each navigation light must—

1. Meet the technical standards of the applicable Navigation Rules;
2. Be certified by a laboratory listed by the Coast Guard to the standards of ABYC A-16 (incorporated by reference, see §25.01–3), or equivalent, although portable battery-powered lights need only meet the requirements of the standard applicable to them; and
3. Bear a permanent and indelible label stating the following:
   (i) “USCG Approval 33 CFR 183.810”
   (ii) “MEETS ___.” (Insert the identification name or number of the standard under paragraph (a)(2) of this section, to which the light was type-tested.)
   (iii) “TESTED BY ___.” (Insert the name or registered certification-mark of the laboratory listed by the Coast Guard that tested the fixture to the standard under paragraph (a)(2) of this section.)
   (iv) Name of Manufacturer.
   (v) Number of Model.
   (vi) Visibility of the light in nautical miles (nm).
   (vii) Date on which the light was type-tested.
   (viii) Identification of bulb used in the compliance test.
(b) If a light is too small to attach the required label—

1. Place the information from the label in or on the package that contains the light; and
2. Mark each light “USCG” followed by the certified range of visibility in nautical miles, for example, “USCG 2nm.” Once installed, this mark must be visible without removing the light.

§ 25.25–1 Application.

This subpart applies to each vessel to which this part applies, except:

(a) Vessels used for noncommercial use;
(b) Vessels leased, rented, or chartered to another for the latter's non-commercial use;
(c) Commercial vessels propelled by sail not carrying passengers for hire; or
(d) Commercial barges not carrying passengers for hire.

§ 25.25–3 Definitions.

As used in this subpart:

(a) Approved means approved under subchapter Q of this chapter.
(b) Use means operate, navigate, or employ.

§ 25.25–5 Life preservers and other lifesaving equipment required.

(a) No person may operate a vessel to which this subpart applies unless it meets the requirements of this subpart.
(b) Each vessel not carrying passengers for hire, less than 40 feet in length must have at least one life preserver (Type I PFD), buoyant vest (Type II PFD), or marine buoyant device intended to be worn (Type III PFD), approved under subchapter Q of a suitable size for each person on board. Kapok and fibrous glass life preservers that do not have plastic-covered pad inserts as required by subparts 160.062 and 160.005 of this chapter are not acceptable as equipment required by this paragraph.
(c) Each vessel carrying passengers for hire and each vessel 40 feet in length or longer not carrying passengers for hire must have at least one life preserver approved under subchapter Q of a suitable size for each person on board. Kapok and fibrous glass life preservers which do not have

Coast Guard, DHS

good faith believes to be purchasing
any such vessel for purposes other than
resale.

Distributor means any person engaged
in the sale and distribution of vessels
for the purpose of resale.

Manufacturer means any person en-
gaged in:

(1) The manufacture, construction, or
assembly of vessels, or
(2) The importation of vessels into
the United States for subsequent sale.

Navigation lights are those lights pre-
scribed by the Navigation Rules (Com-
mendat Instruction 16672.2 series) to
indicate a vessel’s presence, type, oper-
ation, and relative heading.

Subpart 25.25—Life Preservers and
Other Lifesaving Equipment

SOURCE: CGD 72–172R, 38 FR 8117, Mar. 28,
1973, unless otherwise noted.

§ 25.25–1 Application.

This subpart applies to each vessel to
which this part applies, except:

(a) Vessels used for noncommercial
use;
(b) Vessels leased, rented, or char-
tered to another for the latter's non-
commercial use;
(c) Commercial vessels propelled by
sail not carrying passengers for hire; or
(d) Commercial barges not carrying
passengers for hire.

§ 25.25–3 Definitions.

As used in this subpart:

(a) Approved means approved under
subchapter Q of this chapter.
(b) Use means operate, navigate, or
employ.

§ 25.25–5 Life preservers and other
lifesaving equipment required.

(a) No person may operate a vessel to
which this subpart applies unless it
meets the requirements of this subpart.
(b) Each vessel not carrying pas-
sengers for hire, less than 40 feet in
length must have at least one life pre-
server (Type I PFD), buoyant vest
(Type II PFD), or marine buoyant de-
vice intended to be worn (Type III
PFD), approved under subchapter Q of
a suitable size for each person on
board. Kapok and fibrous glass life pre-
servers that do not have plastic-cov-
ered pad inserts as required by sub-
parts 160.062 and 160.005 of this chapter
are not acceptable as equipment re-
quired by this paragraph.
(c) Each vessel carrying passengers
for hire and each vessel 40 feet in
length or longer not carrying pas-
sengers for hire must have at least one
life preserver approved under sub-
chapter Q of a suitable size for each
person on board. Kapok and fibrous
glass life preservers which do not have
plastic-covered pad inserts as required by subparts 160.002 and 160.005 of this chapter are not acceptable as equipment required by this paragraph.

(d) In addition to the equipment required by paragraph (b) and (c) of this section, each vessel 26 feet in length or longer must have at least one approved ring life buoy, and each uninspected passenger vessel of at least 100 gross tons must have at least three ring life buoys. Ring life buoys must be constructed per subpart 160.050 of part 160 of this chapter. The exception is a ring life buoy that was approved prior to May 9, 1979, under former subpart 160.009 of part 160 of this chapter (see 46 CFR chapter I, revised as of October 1, 1979), which may be used as long as it is in good and serviceable condition.

(e) Each vessel not carrying passengers for hire may substitute an immersion suit for a life preserver, buoyant vest, or marine buoyant device required under paragraphs (b) or (c) of this section. Each immersion suit carried in accordance with this paragraph must be of a type approved under subpart 160.171 of this chapter.

(f) On each vessel, regardless of length and regardless of whether carrying passengers for hire, an approved commercial hybrid PFD may be substituted for a life preserver, buoyant vest, or marine buoyant device required under paragraphs (b) or (c) of this section if it is—

1. Used in accordance with the conditions marked on the PFD and in the owner's manual;
2. Labeled for use on commercial vessels; and
3. In the case of a Type V commercial hybrid PFD, worn when the vessel is underway and the intended wearer is not within an enclosed space.

§ 25.25–9 Storage.

(a) The lifesaving equipment designed to be worn required in § 25.25–5 (b), (c) and (e) must be readily accessible.

(b) Lifesaving equipment designed to be thrown required in § 25.25–5(d) must be immediately available.


§ 25.25–11 Condition.

The lifesaving equipment required by this subpart must be in serviceable condition.

§ 25.25–13 Personal flotation device lights.

(a) This section applies to vessels described in § 25.25–1 that engage in ocean, coastwise, or Great Lakes voyages.

(b) Each immersion suit carried in accordance with § 25.25–5(e), each life preserver, each marine buoyant device intended to be worn, and each buoyant vest must have a personal flotation device light that is approved under subpart 161.012 of this chapter.

(c) Each personal flotation device light required by this section must be securely attached to the front shoulder area of the immersion suit, life preserver, or other personal flotation device.

(d) If a personal flotation device light has a non-replaceable power source, the light must be replaced on or before the expiration date of the power source. If the light has a replaceable power source, the power source must be replaced on or before its expiration date and the light must be replaced when it is no longer serviceable.


§ 25.25–15 Retroreflective material for personal flotation devices.

(a) Each life preserver, each marine buoyant device intended to be worn, and each buoyant vest carried on a vessel must have Type I retroreflective material that is approved under subpart 164.018 of this chapter.