Subpart 160.013—Hatchets (Lifeboat and Liferaft) for Merchant Vessels

§ 160.013–1 Applicable specification and plan.

(a) Specification. The following specification, of the issue in effect on the date hatchets are manufactured, forms a part of this subpart:


(b) Plan. The following plan, of the issue in effect on the date hatchets are manufactured, forms a part of this subpart:

(1) Dwg. No. 160.013–1 (b)—Hatchet (Lifeboat and Life Raft).

(c) Copy on file. A copy of the specification and plan referred to in this section shall be kept on file by the manufacturer, together with the approved plans and certificate of approval. They shall be kept for a period consisting of the duration of approval and 6 months after termination of approval. The Federal specification may be purchased from the Business Service Center, General Services Administration, Washington, DC, 20407. The Coast Guard plan may be obtained upon request from the Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard.

§ 160.013–2 Type and size.

(a) Type. Hatchets specified by this subpart shall be Type I, Class I, Design D or E, as described in Federal Specification GGG-A-926, but other hatchets equal in strength and construction will be given special consideration.

(b) Size. Hatchets specified by this subpart shall be of one size, and the dimensions shall be approximately in conformance with Drawing No. 160.013–1(b).


(a) General. All materials, workmanship, and construction details shall be in substantial compliance with the provisions of Federal Specification GGG-A-926, except as provided for in this subpart.

(b) Handle. A ¼-inch diameter hole shall be bored in the hatchet handle in the approximate location shown on DWG No. 160.013–1(b), and the edges of the hole on both sides of the handle shall be rounded off to remove rough edges.

(c) Lanyard. Hatchets specified by this subpart shall be provided with a lanyard of ¼-inch diameter, 3-strand rope-laid line not less than 6 feet in length. Lanyards shall be cotton, jute, or other suitable material. The lanyard shall be attached to the hatchet by threading one end through the hole in the hatchet handle and securing the rope end by splicing or by a bowline or other suitable knot.

(d) Sheath. No sheaths are to be provided for hatchets specified by this subpart.

§ 160.013–5 Marking.

(a) General. Hatchets specified by this subpart shall be stamped or otherwise permanently marked in a legible manner on the side of the head with the manufacturer’s name or with a trade mark of such known character that the source of manufacture may be readily determined, and with the manufacturer’s type or size designation.

(b) [Reserved]

Subpart 160.015—Lifeboat Winches for Merchant Vessels

§ 160.015–1 Applicable regulations.

(a) Regulations. The following regulations of the issue in effect on the date lifeboat winches are manufactured, form a part of this subpart.

(1) Coast Guard regulations: Electrical Engineering Regulations, CG–259 (46 CFR (subchapter J) parts 110 to 113, inclusive of this chapter).
§ 160.015–2 General requirements for lifeboat winches.

(a) The requirements of this subpart apply to all new construction of lifeboat winches. Lifeboat winches approved and in use prior to the regulations in this subpart may be continued in service if in satisfactory condition.

(b) Lifeboat winches for use with gravity davits shall have grooved drums of such size that there will be only one wrap of wire on the drum. Lifeboat winches for use with mechanical davits need not be grooved and may be designed to take more than one wrap.

(c) Lifeboat winches shall be designed to lower under the force of gravity alone. There shall be no provisions for power lowering. A suitable hand wheel shall be attached to the winch to overhaul the falls in addition to any hand cranks provided.

(d) If the lifeboat winch is to be used in conjunction with nested lifeboats where the same falls are used for both boats, suitable means shall be provided for rapidly retrieving the falls by hand power.

(e) The installation of lifeboat winches shall be such that the fleet angle for grooved drums does not exceed 8 degrees, and for nongrooved drums does not exceed 4 degrees.

(f) Suitable hand cranks shall be provided for hoisting in addition to any other means for hoisting.

(g) Suitable fabric covers shall be provided, so fitted over exposed mechanisms that ice formations may be readily broken adrift when necessary to operate the winch.

(h) Falls shall not lead past any position that may be needed for the operation of the winch, such as hand cranks, pay-out wheels, brake levers, etc.

(i) Where falls lead along a deck they shall be suitably covered and so arranged that the top of the cover does not exceed 12 inches above the deck.

(j) Lifeboat winches shall be so designed that when located aboard merchant vessels the operator can observe the movement of the lifeboat during the lowering operation.

(k) For the purpose of calculations and conducting tests, the working load is the maximum load in pounds applied to the winch for which approval is desired.

(k–1) The exterior of a winch shall be designed to minimize such crevices, pockets, and inaccessible areas that when corroded would require disassembly of the winch for their scaling and painting.

(k–2) [Reserved]

(l) The requirements of this subpart shall be complied with unless other arrangements in matters of construction details, design, strength, equivalent in safety and efficiency are approved by the Commandant.


§ 160.015–3 Construction of lifeboat winches.

(a) Lifeboat winches shall be of such strength that the lifeboat may be lowered safely with its full complement of persons and equipment. Additionally, a lifeboat winch used in hoisting an emergency lifeboat of a passenger vessel shall be capable of meeting the test specified in §160.015–5(b)(9). A minimum factor of safety of six on the ultimate strength of the material shall be maintained at all times based on the approved working load.

(b) Worm gears, spur gears, or a combination of both, may be used in the construction of lifeboat winches. All gears shall be machine cut and made of steel, bronze, or other suitable material properly keyed to shafts. The use of cast iron is not permitted for these parts.

(c) Screws, nuts, bolts, pins, keys, etc., securing moving parts shall be