§ 160.133–17  Marking and labeling.

(a) Each hook body of a release mechanism must be marked with a plate or label permanently affixed in a conspicuous place readily accessible for inspection and sufficiently durable to withstand continuous exposure to environmental conditions at sea for the life of the release mechanism.

(b) The plate or label must be in English, but may also be in other languages.

(c) The plate or label must contain the—

1. Manufacturer’s name and model identification;
2. Name of the independent laboratory that witnessed the prototype or production tests;
3. Serial number of the release mechanism;
4. U.S. Coast Guard approval number;
5. Month and year of manufacture;
6. Safe working load of the release mechanism; and
7. Word “SOLAS.”

§ 160.133–19  Operating instructions and information for the ship’s training manual.

(a) Each release mechanism must have instructions and information for the ship’s training manual that use the symbols from IMO Res. A.760(18) (incorporated by reference, see §160.133–5 of this subpart) to describe the location and operation of the release mechanism.

(b) The instructions and information required by paragraph (a) of this section may be combined with similar material for survival craft and rescue boats, and their launching systems.

(c) The release mechanism manufacturer must make the instructions and information required by paragraph (a) of this section available—

1. In English to purchasers of release mechanisms approved by the Coast Guard; and
2. In the form of an instruction placard providing simple procedures and illustrations for operation of the release mechanism. The placard must be not greater than 36 cm (14 in) by 51 cm (20 in), and must be made of durable material and suitable for display inside a lifeboat and rescue boat and/or near launching appliances on vessels.

§ 160.133–21  Operation and maintenance instructions.

(a) Each release mechanism must have operation and maintenance instructions that—

1. Follows the general format and content specified in IMO MSC.1 Circ. 1205 (incorporated by reference, see §160.133–5 of this subpart); and
2. Includes a checklist for use in monthly, external visual inspections of the release mechanism.

(b) The release mechanism manufacturer must make the manual required by paragraph (a) of this section available in English to purchasers of a release mechanism approved by the Coast Guard.

(c) The operation and maintenance instructions required by paragraph (a) of this section may be combined with similar material for survival craft and rescue boats, and their launching systems.

§ 160.133–23  Procedure for approval of design, material, or construction change.

(a) Each change in design, material, or construction from the plans approved under 46 CFR 159.005–13 and §160.133–13(h) of this subpart must be approved by the Commandant before being used in any production release mechanism. The manufacturer must submit any such change following the procedures set forth in §160.133–9 of this subpart, but documentation on items that are unchanged from the plans approved under 46 CFR 159.005–13 and §160.133–13(h) of this subpart need not be resubmitted.

(b) Unless determined by the Commandant to be unnecessary, a prototype release mechanism with each change described in paragraph (a) of this section must be made and tested according to the procedures for new approvals in §§160.133–9 through 160.133–13 of this subpart.

(c) Determinations of equivalence of design, material, or construction will be made by the Commandant only.

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