

§ 131.850

any shift of steering gear or steering stations.

(d) Each clutch, gear, wheel, lever, valve, or switch used during any shift of steering gear or steering stations must be numbered or lettered on a metal plate or painted so that the numbers or letters are recognizable at a reasonable distance.

§ 131.850 Rudder orders.

At each steering station there must be installed a suitable notice on the wheel or lever, or in some other place directly in the helmsman's line of sight, to indicate the direction in which to turn the wheel or lever for "right rudder" and for "left rudder."

§ 131.855 Lifeboats and rescue boats.

(a) The following must be plainly marked or painted on each side of the bow of each lifeboat and rescue boat in block capital letters and numbers:

(1) The name of the vessel.

(2) The number of the boat. (The boats on each side of the vessel must be numbered from forward to aft. If there are boats on both sides of the vessel, the odd numbers must be on the starboard side.)

(3) For each vessel in ocean service, the name of the port whose marking on the stern is required by §67.123 of this chapter.

(b) The following must be plainly marked or painted on each side of the bow of each lifeboat and rescue boat in block capital letters and numbers:

(1) The length and beam of the boat.

(2) The number of persons the boat will hold. This number must—

(i) Be the number of persons the boat is equipped for; and

(ii) Not be greater than the number of persons the boat is approved for, as shown on its nameplate.

(c) The following must be plainly marked or painted on each lifeboat and rescue boat, visible from above the boat:

(1) The number of the boat.

(2) The name of the vessel.

(d) Each lifeboat and rescue boat must be marked with Type II retro-reflective material approved under subpart 164.018 of this chapter. The arrangement of the retro-reflective mate-

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rial must comply with IMO Resolution A.658(16).

§ 131.860 Rigid liferafts.

(a) The following must be plainly marked or painted, near one entrance of each rigid liferaft:

(1) The name of the vessel.

(2) For each vessel in ocean service, the name of the port whose marking on the stern is required by §67.123 of this chapter.

(b) The length of the painter must be plainly marked or painted, near one entrance of each rigid liferaft.

(c) The number of persons the rigid liferaft is approved for must be plainly marked or painted, over each entrance to each raft, in letters and numbers at least 102 millimeters (4 inches) high and in a color contrasting to that of the raft. This number must—

(1) Be the number of persons the rigid liferaft is equipped for; and

(2) Not be greater than the number of persons the rigid liferaft is approved for, as shown on its nameplate.

(d) The rigid liferaft must be marked with the words "SOLAS A pack" or "SOLAS B pack", to reflect the pack inside.

§ 131.865 Inflatable liferafts and inflatable buoyant apparatus.

The number of the inflatable liferaft or inflatable buoyant apparatus and the number of persons it is approved for must be marked or painted, in a conspicuous place in the immediate vicinity of each raft and each apparatus, in letters and numbers at least 38 millimeters (1½ inches) high and in a color contrasting to that of the raft or apparatus. Each raft or apparatus stowed on the side of a vessel must be numbered like a liferaft in compliance with §199.178 (c) and (d) of this chapter. No letters or numbers may go on the liferaft or on the container of the apparatus.

§ 131.870 Life floats and buoyant apparatus.

(a) The name of the vessel must be plainly marked or painted on each life float or buoyant apparatus, and on each oar and paddle.

(b) The number of persons each life float or buoyant apparatus is approved