(2) Post assembly tests and inspections. The finished rescue boat must be visually inspected inside and out. The manufacturer must develop and maintain a visual inspection checklist designed to ensure that all applicable requirements have been met and the rescue boat is equipped in accordance with approved plans. At a minimum, each rescue boat must be operated for 2 hours, during which all rescue boat systems must be exercised.

§ 160.156–17 Marking and labeling.

(a) Each rescue boat must be marked with a plate or label permanently affixed to the hull 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 rescue boat.

(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) Name and address of the manufacturer;

(2) Manufacturer’s model identification;

(3) Name of the independent laboratory that witnessed the prototype or production tests;

(4) Serial number of the rescue boat;

(5) U.S. Coast Guard approval number;

(6) Month and year of manufacture;

(7) Material of hull construction;

(8) Number of persons for which the rescue boat is approved;

(9) Light load and full load (condition A and condition B weight); and

(10) Word “SOLAS.”

§ 160.156–19 Operating instructions and information for the ship’s training manual.

(a) Each rescue boat 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 §160.156–5 of this subpart) to describe the location and operation of the rescue boat.

(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.

§ 160.156–21 Operation and maintenance instructions.

(a) In order to comply with SOLAS, each rescue boat must have operation and maintenance instructions that—

(1) Follows the general format and content specified in MSC.1 Circ. 1205 (incorporated by reference, see §160.156–5 of this subpart); and

(2) Includes a checklist for use in monthly, external inspections of the rescue boat.

(b) The rescue boat manufacturer must make the manual required by paragraph (a) of this section available in English to purchasers of a rescue boat 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.

§ 160.156–23 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 §160.156–13(h) of this subpart must be approved by the Commandant before being used in any production rescue boat. The manufacturer must submit any such change following the procedures set forth in §160.156–9 of this subpart, but documentation on items that are unchanged from the plans approved under 46 CFR 159.005–13 and §160.156–13(h) of this subpart need not be resubmitted.

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(b) Unless determined by the Commandant to be unnecessary, a prototype rescue boat with each change described in paragraph (a) of this section must be made and tested according to the procedures for new approvals in §§160.156–9 through 160.156–13 of this subpart.

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

Subpart 160.170—Davit-Launched Liferaft Automatic Release Hooks (SOLAS)


§ 160.170–1 Scope.

This subpart prescribes standards, tests, and procedures for seeking Coast Guard approval of an automatic release mechanism complying with SOLAS and the IMO LSA Code, for use with davit-launched liferafts approved under subparts 160.051 or 160.151 of this part, and single-fall rescue boats approved under subpart 160.156 of this part.

§ 160.170–3 Definitions.

In addition to the definitions in the IMO LSA Code (incorporated by reference, see §160.170–5 of this subpart), in this subpart, the term:


Full load means the weight of the complete rescue boat including all required equipment, provisions, fuel (if applicable), and the number of persons for which it is approved. This is also known as the “condition B” weight.

Independent laboratory has the same meaning as 46 CFR 159.001–3. A list of accepted independent laboratories is available from the Commandant and online at http://cgmix.uscg.mil.

Light load means the weight of the complete rescue boat empty and does not include fuel, required equipment, or the equivalent weight of persons. This is also known as the “condition A” weight.

Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection (OCMI) means an officer of the Coast Guard designated as such by the Commandant and who fulfills the duties described in 46 CFR 1.01–15(b). The “cognizant OCMI” is the OCMI who has immediate jurisdiction over a vessel or geographic area for the purpose of performing the duties previously described.

SOLAS means the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended.

§ 160.170–5 Incorporation by reference.

(a) Certain material is incorporated by reference into this part with the approval of the Director of the Federal Register under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. To enforce any edition other than that specified in this section, the Coast Guard must publish notice of change in the FEDERAL REGISTER and the material must be available to the public. All approved material is available for inspection at Coast Guard Headquarters. Contact Commandant (CG–ENG–4), Attn: Lifesaving and Fire Safety Division, U.S. Coast Guard Stop 7509, 2703 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20593–7509. You may also inspect this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, call 202–741–6030 or go to http://www.archives.gov/federal_register/code_of_federal_regulations/ibr_locations.html. You may obtain copies of the material from the sources specified in the following paragraphs.

(b) American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), 100 Barr Harbor Drive, P.O. Box C700, West Conshohocken, PA 19428–2959.


(2) ASTM A 276–08a, Standard Specification for Stainless Steel Bars and