Coast Guard, DHS

is important that after the cushion has once been submerged that it shall remain submerged for the duration of the test, and at no time during the course of the test shall it be removed from the tank or otherwise exposed to air.

(iii) After the 24-hour submergence period unlock or unseal the tank and weigh the weighted wire basket with the cushion inside while both are still under water.

(iv) The buoyancy is computed as (i) minus (iii).

(2) Buoyancy required. Each cushion shall provide not less than 20 pounds buoyancy.

§ 160.049–6 Marking.

(a) Each buoyant cushion must have the following information clearly marked in waterproof lettering:

(1) In letters that can be read at a distance of 2 feet:

Type IV Personal Flotation Device.
Inspected and tested in accordance with U.S. Coast Guard regulations.
(Name of buoyant material) buoyant material provides a minimum buoyant force of 20 lb.
Dry out thoroughly when wet.
Approved for use on recreational boats only as a throwable device.
U.S. Coast Guard Approval No. 160.049/(assigned manufacturer’s No.) Revision No.; (Model No.).
(Name and address of manufacturer or distributor.).
(Lot No.).
Size; width, thickness, and length, including both top and bottom for trapezoidal cushions.).

(2) In letters that are distinctively set off or larger than all other marking, and are at least one-fourth of an inch in height:

WARNING: DO NOT WEAR ON BACK

(b) Waterproofness of marking. Marking for buoyant cushions shall be sufficiently waterproof so that after 72 hours submergence in water, it will withstand vigorous rubbing by hand while wet without the printed matter becoming illegible.

§ 160.049–7 Procedure for approval.

(a) Group approval. A single group approval will be granted to each manufacturer to cover all buoyant cushions which have materials and construction strictly in conformance with this subpart, and which are in accordance with §160.049–4(c)(1).

(b) Special approvals. Special approvals will be granted separately to each manufacturer for each unicellular plastic foam buoyant cushion he proposes to manufacture which is not included under the group approval provided for by paragraph (b) of this section, for example: a buoyant cushion having cover material not specifically provided for by this subpart, or any buoyant cushion having a different shape.

(c) A buoyant cushion is approved when it bears the compliance label of the recognized laboratory.

§ 160.049–8 Recognized laboratory.

(a) A manufacturer seeking Coast Guard approval of a product under this subpart shall follow the approval procedures of subpart 159.005 of this chapter, and shall apply for approval directly to a recognized independent laboratory. The following laboratories are recognized under §159.010–7 of this part, to perform testing and approval functions under this subpart:

Underwriters Laboratories, 12 Laboratory Drive, P.O. Box 13995, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709–3995, (919) 549–1400.

(b) Production oversight must be performed by the same laboratory that performs the approval tests unless, as determined by the Commandant, the employees of the laboratory performing production oversight receive training and support equal to that of
§ 160.050–1 Incorporation by reference.

(a) Standard. This subpart makes reference to Federal Standard No. 595-Col-
ors in §160.050–3.

(b) Copies on file. The Federal Standard may be obtained from the Business
Service Center, General Services Admin-
istration, Washington, DC 20407.

[USCG–1999–6216, 64 FR 53228, Oct. 1, 1999]

§ 160.050–2 Types and sizes.

(a) Type. Life buoys shall be of the
annular ring type as described in this
subpart, but alternate arrangements
meeting the performance require-
ments set forth will be given special
consideration.

(b) Sizes. Ring life buoys shall be of
the sizes set forth in Table 160.050–2(b).
A tolerance of a plus or minus 5 per-
cent will be allowable on the dimen-
sions indicated in Table 160.050–2(b).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Dimensions (inches) Finished ring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30-inch</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-inch</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-inch</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[CGFR 54–46, 19 FR 8707, Dec. 18, 1954, as
amended by CGFR 62–17, 27 FR 9045, Sept. 11,
1962]

§ 160.050–3 Materials.

(a) General. All exposed materials
must be resistant to oil or oil products,
salt water and anticipated weather
conditions encountered at sea. All com-
ponents used in construction of buoys
and life rings must meet the applicable
requirements of subpart 164.019 of this
chapter.

(b) Unicellular plastic. The unicellular
plastic material used in fabrication of
the buoy body shall meet the require-
ments of subpart 164.015 of this sub-
chapter for Type C material. The
buoy’s body shall be finished with two
coats of vinyl base paint. The ring life
buoys shall be either international or-
ange (Color No. 12197 of Federal Stand-
ard 595) or white in color and the
colorfastness shall be rated “good”
tested in accordance with Federal
Test Method Standard No. 191 Methods
5610, 5630, 5650, and 5660.

Note: On vessels on an international voy-
age, all ring life buoys shall be international orange in color.)

(c) Grab line. The grab line shall be
3⁄8-inch diameter polyethylene, poly-
propylene, or other suitable buoyant
type synthetic material having a min-
imum breaking strength of 1,350
pounds.

(d) Becks. The beckets for securing
the grab line shall be 2-inch poly-
ethylene, polypropylene, nylon, saran
or other suitable synthetic material
having a minimum breaking strength
of 585 pounds. In addition, polyethylene
and polypropylene shall be weather-re-
sistant type which is stabilized as to
heat, oxidation, and ultraviolet light
degradation.

(e) Thread. Each thread must meet
the requirements of subpart 164.023 of
this chapter. Only one kind of thread
may be used in each seam.

[CGFR 65–9, 30 FR 11477, Sept. 8, 1965, as
amended by CGFR 65–64, 31 FR 562, Jan. 18,
1966; CGD 78–012, 43 FR 27154, June 22, 1978;
CGD 84–068, 58 FR 29493, May 20, 1993]

§ 160.050–4 Construction and work-
manship.

(a) General. This specification covers
ring life buoys which provide buoyancy
to aid in keeping persons afloat in the
water. Each buoy consists of a body
constructed in the shape of an annular
ring, with an approximately elliptical
body cross section and which is fitted
with a grab line around the outside pe-
riphery. The outside and inside diame-
ters of the ring and the length and
width of the cross section of the body
shall be uniform throughout.

(b) Body. The body shall be made in
either one or two pieces. If of two
pieces, the pieces shall be equal in size
and shall be adhesive bonded along a
center line through an axis passing
through the flat area dimension of the
body. The adhesive shall be a liquid