§ 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 instructions and information required by paragraph (a) of this section available—

(1) In English to purchasers of a rescue boat approved by the Coast Guard; and

(2) In the form of an instruction placard providing simple procedures and illustrations for operation of the rescue boat. 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 near installations of rescue boats on vessels.

§ 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.

(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.