



Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries & Shipping
3rd Floor, Ken Lee Building
Edith Cavell Street
Port-Louis

MERCHANT SHIPPING NOTICE Ref: 3 of 2017

Title: Approval of inflatable liferafts subject to extended service intervals not exceeding 30 months.

Notice to: Ship Owners/Masters/Managers/Operators, Liferafts manufacturers,
Approved liferafts serving stations, Dry/Repair Docks, Maritime Training
Institutions and Seafarers in general

The purpose of this Merchant Shipping Notice is to inform all the shipping community that this Ministry has approved the use of the Viking Liferaft Type S30 onboard Mauritian Flag vessels subject to certain conditions as mentioned in this Notice.

- 1.0** The purpose of this Merchant Shipping Notice is to inform all those concerned that this ministry approves the use of the Viking Liferaft Type S30 onboard Mauritian Flag vessels.
- 2.0** This approval has been given by taking into consideration Regulation 20.8.3 of Chapter III of the Safety of life at Sea (SOLAS) Convention 1974, (as amended) which states that;
“An Administration which approves new and novel inflatable liferaft arrangements pursuant to regulation 4 may allow for extended service intervals on the following conditions:
 - 8.3.1.** *The new and novel liferaft arrangement has proved to maintain the same standard, as required by testing procedure, during extended service intervals.*
 - 8.3.2.** *The liferaft system shall be checked on board by certified personnel according to paragraph 8.1.1.*
 - 8.3.3.** *Service at intervals not exceeding five (5) years shall be carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the Organization.”*
- 3.0** These liferafts have proactive wrapping concept for 30 months packed liferaft which includes inside environment and more ways to monitor the liferaft condition inside the sealed compartment during the installation onboard the ship and have been approved in accordance to SOLAS Chapter III regulations 4 and 34 in addition to resolution MSC.81 (70) as amended and IMO’s MSC/Circ.811.

4.0 This Ministry therefore considers that the Viking Liferaft S30 provides the required safety standards and has successfully undergone evaluation and testing in accordance with recommendations of the Convention.

5.0 The different types of Viking Liferaft S30 approved to be used onboard Mauritian Flag vessels are as follows:

i. Throw overboard liferafts:

6 DK+S30, 8 DK+S30, 10 DK+S30, 12 DK+S30, 16 DK+S30, 20 DK+S30 and 25 DK+S30

ii. Throw overboard self-righting liferafts:

12 DKS S30, 25 DKS S30, 39 DKS S30, 50 DKS S30, 100 DKS S30 and 150 DKS S30

iii. Davit launched liferafts:

12 DKF+S30, 16 DKF+S30, 20 DKF+S30, 25 DKF+S30 and 35 DKF+S30

iv. Davit launched self-righting liferafts:

25 DKFS S30 and 39 DKFS S30

v. Open reversible liferafts:

12 DKR+S30, 25 DKR+S30, 50 DKR+S30, 100 DKR+S30 and 150 DKR+S30

6.0 In order to fulfill the maintenance and inspection periods, the following conditions are to be complied with;

a. The Liferaft shall be a model which has been tested and approved by a Classification Society with whom this Ministry has signed a Memorandum of Agreement. **(See Annex 1)**

b. Provided that the hermetic seal has NOT been compromised, the service period for the Viking Liferaft Type S30 shall not exceed 30 months.

c. The Liferaft shall be visually and technically inspected for the verification of the tight seal, humidity level and possible leaks of CO₂. This can be carried out on-board the ship by qualified persons who have been adequately trained and certified by the life-raft manufacturer and according to instructions for on-board inspections as laid out by Viking Life-Saving Equipment A/S, with intervals of not more than 12 months.

d. As long as the hermetic seal has not been compromised, the 30 months' service intervals will apply for the first 10 years of their service lives. Regular service intervals according to SOLAS regulation III/20.8.1.1. shall be followed when the age of the life-raft exceeds 10 years of age. All readings shall be recorded and kept on-board together with the life-raft certificate for documentation and inspection purposes. If the periodic on-board inspection reveals a loss of gas, the life-raft should undergo a full service immediately. If excess humidity is present or the seal verification reveals loss of hermetic seal for any reason, the life-raft shall be serviced and repacked within 3 months from inspection, or 30 months from repacking whichever comes first.

- e. A record book of inspection shall be kept on board, in order to provide evidence of the monitoring of the humidity levels and possible leaks of CO₂ of all liferafts of this type, by a qualified person.
- f. All personnel whether onboard or ashore who will be required to conduct the annual inspection and/ or servicing shall be duly trained and certified by the “Viking Life Saving Equipment A/S Company”.
- g. The Company/Ship Safety Management System be amended accordingly.

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ANNEX 1

Approved Classification Societies

- American Bureau of Shipping - ABS
- Bureau Veritas - BV
- China Classification Society - CCS
- Det Norske Veritas -Germanischer Lloyd – DNV/GL
- Hellenic Register of Shipping - HR
- Indian Register of Shipping - IRS
- Korean Register of Shipping - KRS
- Lloyds Register of Shipping - LR
- Nippon Kaiji Kyokai - NK
- Registro Italiano Navale - RINA