

MARINE DEPARTMENT NOTICE NO. 69 OF 2019

(Statutory Requirement and Related Information)

Lifejackets Suitable for Both Adults and Children

Accepted by the Marine Department

This notice announces the Marine Department (MD)'s requirements for accepting the lifejackets suitable for both adults and children (Common Lifejacket) to be used on board local vessels operating in Hong Kong waters.

On commission of the MD, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) successfully developed a type of Common Lifejacket in June 2016 which meets the international standard ISO 12402-4:2006 (personal floatation devices) to be used on board local vessels operating in Hong Kong waters. In order to obtain the MD's acceptance for the Common Lifejacket produced, the product shall meet the following requirements:

- (a) The manufacturer must enter into a licence agreement with the PolyU to obtain an authorisation to produce the Common Lifejacket;
- (b) Prior to the production of the Common Lifejacket, the manufacturer must seek accreditation from a classification society¹ recognised by the MD, or a European Union (EU) Notified Body or an administration to accredit that its production line complies with the requirements for lifejacket production;
- (c) the manufacturer is also required to have samples of the Common Lifejackets tested and seek accreditation from one of the certification bodies mentioned in item (b) above to certify that the performance of the Common Lifejackets produced complies with the requirements of the international standard ISO 12402-4:2006 (personal floatation devices);

¹ Classification societies recognised by the MD include i) American Bureau of Shipping (ABS), ii) Bureau Veritas (BV), iii) China Classification Society (CCS), iv) DNV GL, v) Korean Register of Shipping (KR), vi) Lloyd's Register (LR), vii) Nippon Kaiji Kyokai (NK), viii) RINA S.p.A. (RINA) and ix) Russian Maritime Register of Shipping (RS).

- (d) the manufacturer has to furnish the MD with information on accreditation by the relevant bodies mentioned in items (b) and (c) above, including the test report of the samples of the Common Lifejackets and other applicable reports; and
- (e) each of the Common Lifejackets produced must bear a label which complies with the requirements of the international standard ISO 12402-4:2006 (personal flotation devices), with information on the manufacturer, accreditation, date of manufacture, performance standard, application, etc. of the lifejacket.

Information on the manufacturers of the Common Lifejacket accepted by the MD can be found on the website below. The owners/agents of owners and coxswains of local vessels as well as pleasure vessel operators can visit the relevant website for the information when procuring the Common Lifejackets so as to avoid purchasing ones which are not accepted by the MD.

https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/pub_services/ocean/pdf/lvs_common_lifejacket.pdf

For enquiries, please contact the Local Vessels Safety Section at 23/F, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong, or at telephone number 2852 4444.

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Marine Department

Government of the HKSAR

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