

§ 160.076-9 Conditional approval.

(a) A conditionally approved inflatable PFD is categorized as a Type V PFD and may be used to meet the Coast Guard PFD carriage requirements of 33 CFR part 175 only if the PFD is used in accordance with any requirements on the approval label. PFDs marked “Approved only when worn” must be worn whenever the vessel is underway and the intended wearer is not within an enclosed space if the PFD is intended to be used to satisfy the requirements of 33 CFR part 175. Note: Additional approved PFDs may be needed to satisfy the requirements of 33 CFR part 175 if “Approved only when worn” PFDs are not worn.

(b) PFDs not meeting the performance specifications for type I, II, or III PFDs in UL 1180 may be classified as Type V, conditionally approved PFDs, when the Commandant determines that the performance or design characteristics of the PFD make such classification appropriate.

[CGD 94-110, 60 FR 32848, June 23, 1995, as amended by CGD 94-110, 61 FR 13945, Mar. 28, 1996]

§ 160.076-11 Incorporation by reference.

(a) Certain materials are incorporated by reference into this subpart with the approval of the Director of the Federal Register in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. To enforce any edition other than the one listed in paragraph (b) of this section, the Coast Guard must publish notice of the change in the FEDERAL REGISTER, and the material must be available to the public. All approved material is available for inspection at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and at the U.S. Coast Guard, Lifesaving and Fire Safety Division (G-MSE-4), 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001, and is available from the sources indicated in paragraph (b) of this section. 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.

(b) The materials approved for incorporation by reference in this subpart, and the sections affected are as follows:

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR TESTING AND MATERIALS (ASTM)

100 Barr Harbor Drive, West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959.

ASTM D 751-95, Standard Test Methods for Coated Fabrics—160.076-25

ASTM D 1434-82 (1988), Standard Test Method for Determining Gas Permeability Characteristics of Plastic Film and Sheeting—160.076-25

FEDERAL STANDARDS

Naval Publishing and Printing Center, Customer Service, 700 Robbins Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19120.

In Federal Test Method Standard No. 191A (dated July 20, 1978) the following methods:

(1) Method 5100, Strength and Elongation, Breaking of Woven Cloth; Grab Method, 160.076-25;

(2) Method 5132, Strength of Cloth, Tearing; Falling-Pendulum Method, 160.076-25;

(3) Method 5134, Strength of Cloth, Tearing; Tongue Method, 160.076-25.

UNDERWRITERS LABORATORIES (UL)

Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., 12 Laboratory Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-3995 (Phone (919) 549-1400; Facsimile: (919) 549-1842)

UL 1123, “Marine Buoyant Devices”, February 17, 1995, 160.076-35;

UL 1180, “Fully Inflatable Recreational Personal Flotation Devices”, May 15, 1995, 160.076-7; 160.076-21; 160.076-23; 160.076-25; 160.076-29; 160.076-31; 160.076-37; 160.076-39.

UL 1191, “Components for Personal Flotation Devices”, May 16, 1995, 160.076-21; 160.076-25; 160.076-39.

[CGD 94-110, 60 FR 32848, June 23, 1995, as amended by CGD 95-072, 60 FR 50467, Sept. 29, 1995, CGD 94-110, 61 FR 13945, Mar. 28, 1996; CGD 96-041, 61 FR 50733, Sept. 27, 1996; CGD 97-057, 62 FR 51048, Sept. 30, 1997; USCG-1999-5151, 64 FR 67184, Dec. 1, 1999]

§ 160.076-13 Approval procedures for inflatable PFDs.

(a) Manufacturers seeking approval of an inflatable PFD design shall follow the procedures of this section and subpart 159.005 of this chapter.

(b) Each application for approval of an inflatable PFD must contain the information specified in § 159.005-5 of this chapter. The application must be submitted to a recognized laboratory. One copy of the application and, except as

provided in paragraph (c)(2) of this section, a prototype PFD must be submitted to the Commandant for preapproval review. If a similar design has already been approved, the Commandant may authorize the recognized laboratory to waive the preapproval review under §§ 159.005-5 and 159.005-7 of this chapter.

(c) The application must include the following:

(1) Plans and specifications containing the information required by § 159.005-12 of this chapter, including drawings, product description, construction specifications, and bill of materials.

(2) The information specified in § 159.005-5(a)(2) (i) through (iii) of this chapter must be included in the application, except that, if preapproval review has been waived, the manufacturer is not required to send a prototype PFD sample to the Commandant.

(3) The type of performance (Type I, II, or III) that the PFD is designed to provide along with the Approval Type sought (Type I, II, III, or V).

(4) Any special purpose(s) for which the PFD is designed and the vessel(s) or vessel type(s) on which its use is intended.

(5) Buoyancy, torque, and other relevant tolerances to be met during production.

(6) The text of any optional marking to be included on the PFD in addition to the markings required by § 160.076-39.

(7) A draft of the information pamphlet required by § 160.076-35.

(8) A draft of the owner's manual required by § 160.076-37.

(9) For any conditionally approved PFD, the intended approval condition(s).

(d) The description required by § 159.005-9 of this chapter of quality control procedures may be omitted if the manufacturer's planned quality control procedures meet the requirements of §§ 160.076-29 and 160.076-31.

(e) *Manual and pamphlet.* Before granting approval of a PFD design, the Commandant may require changes to the manual and information pamphlet submitted for review to ensure compliance with the requirements of §§ 160.076-35 and 160.076-37.

(f) *Waiver of tests.* A manufacturer may request that the Commandant waive any test prescribed for approval under this subpart. To request a waiver, the manufacturer must submit to the Commandant and the recognized laboratory, one of the following:

(1) Satisfactory test results on a PFD of sufficiently similar design as determined by the Commandant.

(2) Engineering analysis demonstrating that the test for which a waiver is requested is not appropriate for the particular design submitted for approval or that, because of its design or construction, it is not possible for the PFD to fail that test.

(g) *Alternative requirements.* A PFD that does not meet the requirements of this subpart may be approved by the Commandant if the device—

(1) Meets other requirements prescribed by the Commandant in place of or in addition to the requirements of this subpart; and

(2) As determined by the Commandant, provides at least the same degree of safety provided by other PFDs that meet the requirements of this subpart.

[CGD 94-110, 60 FR 32848, June 23, 1995, as amended by CGD 94-110, 61 FR 13946, Mar. 28, 1996]

§ 160.076-15 Suspension or termination of approval.

As provided in § 159.005-15 of this chapter, the Commandant may suspend or terminate the approval of an inflatable PFD design if the manufacturer fails to comply with this subpart or the recognized laboratory's accepted procedures or requirements.

§ 160.076-17 Approval of design or material changes.

(a) The manufacturer must submit any proposed changes in design, material, or construction to the recognized laboratory and the Commandant for approval before changing PFD production methods.

(b) Determinations of equivalence of design, construction, and materials may be made only by the Commandant or a designated representative.