

# Palau International Ship Registry



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## MARINE NOTICE 113.2

**To: RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS, SHIPOWNERS, MANAGERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS, DEPUTY REGISTRARS, AND FLAG STATE INSPECTORS.**

**Subject: LIFE-SAVING APPLIANCES AND EQUIPMENT**

1. Reference
  - 1.1 SOLAS, 1974, as amended
  - 1.2 LSA Code, as amended
  - 1.3 IMO Assembly Resolution A.761.(18) *Recommendations on Conditions for the Approval of Servicing Stations for Inflatable Life Rafts*, adopted on 04 November 1993
  - 1.4 IMO Resolution MSC.81(70), *Revised Recommendation on Testing of Life-saving Appliances*, adopted on 11 December 1998
  - 1.5 IMO Resolution MSC.55(66), Adoption of Amendments to the Recommendation on Conditions for the Approval of Servicing Stations for Inflatable Life Rafts (Resolution A.761(18)), adopted on 30 May 1996
  - 1.6 IMO Circular MSC/Circ.1114 *Guidelines for Periodic Testing of Immersion Suite and Anti-Exposure Suite-Seams and Closures*, issued 25 May 2004
  - 1.7 IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1278 *Guidance on wearing immersion suits in totally enclosed Lifeboats*, issued 23 May 2008
  - 1.8 IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ. 1243 Unified Interpretation of SOLAS Chapter III, issued 29 October 2007.
  - 1.9 Palau Maritime Regulations, Chapter 5.5
  - 1.10 Resolution MSC.402(96) *Requirements for Maintenance, through Examination, Operational Testing, Overhaul and Repair of Lifeboats, Launching appliances and Release Gear*.
  - 1.11
2. Purpose
  - 2.1 This Marine Notice provides clarification for the interpretation involving Life-Saving Appliances aboard Palau registered vessels.
3. Applicability
  - 3.1 This Marine Notice applies to all Palau registered vessels including MOUs subject to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS)
4. Approval of Equipment
  - 4.1 Equipment approvals will be accepted by Palau Ship Registry Administrator when such approvals are previously granted by another State Party that is a Party of the SOLAS Convention, or a Recognized Organization (RO) approved by the Palau Ship Registry Administrator.



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- 4.2 All newly installed lifesaving equipment must comply with SOLAS, the LSA Code, and IMO Resolution MSC.81(70).
- 4.3 Existing equipment, which was manufactured, tested, and installed in accordance with previous SOLAS Convention requirements, can continue to be used as long as it remains in serviceable condition.
5. Approval of Authorized Service Providers
  - 5.1 From January 1<sup>st</sup> 2020, the Palau Ship Registry Administrator will provide approval to Authorized Service Providers according to the new requirements of Resolution 402(96). Service Providers seeking for Palau Flag Approval shall contact the Palau Ship Registry Administrator or visit the website [www.palaureg.com](http://www.palaureg.com) in order to get the application and start the process of approval.
  - 5.2 A list of authorized service providers can be requested directly to the Palau Ship Registry Administrator by email to the address [technical@palaureg.com](mailto:technical@palaureg.com). The same will be published in the Palau International Ship Registry website [www.palaureg.com](http://www.palaureg.com) as the list becomes available after the entry into force of the Resolution 402(96).
6. Equipment Servicing
  - 6.1 The SOLAS Convention requires that inflatable life rafts, inflatable life jackets, marine evacuation systems, and inflated rescue boats be serviced at approved servicing facilities.
  - 6.2 On vessels that have implemented the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification (HSSC) inspection scheme, the inflatable life rafts, any inflatable life jackets, and any installed evacuation systems must be examined and certification of last servicing verified during the annual, periodical, and renewal surveys stipulated in the 1988 SOLAS Protocol.
  - 6.3 On other vessels, this equipment is to be serviced just prior to, or during, the Cargo Ship Safety Equipment periodical or renewal surveys.
  - 6.4 The Palau Ship Registry Administrator recognizes that annual servicing of the large numbers of life rafts required for passenger ships under their unique voyage conditions may impose difficulties. The Palau Ship Registry Administrator therefore endorses the servicing of life rafts in smaller more manageable groups throughout the certification year. Each life raft, however, must be serviced in a sequence that ensure that no life raft will exceed a 12 -month servicing interval.



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- 6.5 The servicing interval and procedures for inflated rescue boats must be in accordance with the manufacturer's requirements.
- 6.6 The periodic testing of immersion suits shall be conducted according to IMO Circular MSC/Circ. 1114. Suits less than 10 years old shall be tested at intervals not exceeding three (3) years; Suits older than 10 years, or suits which have seams or closures that are in questionable condition may be required to be tested more frequently. Immersion suits air tests may be conducted on board ship if suitable equipment is available. Any necessary repairs shall be conducted by an Authorized Service Provider in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.
7. Life Rafts
- 7.1 Life rafts provided in compliance with SOLAS Regulation III/31.1.4 may be stowed in protected positions provided they are readily available at all times. Particular care should be given to their accessibility when deck cargoes are carried. Consideration should also be given to facilitate launching.
- 7.2 On occasion, it may be necessary to temporarily carry persons on board in excess of the number currently authorized. When physically possible, the installed lifeboats should be recertified to provide the necessary capacity. If the existing lifeboats are already certified to their maximum capacity, the Palau Ship Registry Administrator may allow, for legitimate verifiable reasons, the substitution of inflatable life rafts capacity appropriately installed in accordance with regulatory requirements to augment the required lifeboat complement as a temporary measure of equivalency. These temporary measures will be limited to the minimum period of time required for the additional persons to be on board and, in general, will not exceed two (2) months. This accommodation will only be allowed with the specific approval of the Palau Ship Registry Administrator.
8. Immersion Suits and Thermal Protective Aids
- 8.1 Immersion Suits shall comply with Section 2.3 of the LSA Code.
- 8.2 An immersion suite shall be provided for every person on board the ship, unless expressly provided otherwise under SOLAS. It is recommended that they should be kept in staterooms along with life jackets.
- 8.3 A minimum of two (2) immersion suits and two (2) lifejackets must be provided at locations where remotely located survival craft are stowed in accordance with SOLAS Regulations III/31.1.4 and detailed IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1243.



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8.4 Exemptions for immersion suits will be provided by Palau Ship Registry Administrator under provisions of SOLAS for vessels engaged in warm climates voyages.

## 9. Contact

9.1 For further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Technical Department of PISR at [technical@palaureg.com](mailto:technical@palaureg.com)

**\*\*This Marine Notice supersedes  
Marine Notice 113.1\*\***

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