


Directorate General of Shipping, Ministry of Shipping, Govt. of India, Mumbai		
Authorized by:	NAUTICAL WING	
Nautical Advisor to the Govt. of India	Subject-Servicing of Life Saving Appliances- reg.	File No. 19-NT (6)/2009-Pt.II
	NT Circular No. NT/LSA/01/2016	Dated 19.02.2016
<p>1. In accordance with the provisions the M.S (Life Saving Appliances) Rules, 1991, inflatable life rafts, inflatable rescue boats and other such inflatable life saving appliances shall be serviced in accordance with the relevant guidelines issued by this office and as prescribed by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), from time to time.</p> <p>2. The importance of servicing of such Life Saving Appliance (LSA) equipment's and that the shipping industry operates on the 'time-bound' principle are pertinent. Based on the deliberations with maritime industry representatives, provisions under applicable IMO guidelines on the subject and keeping in line with principle adopted under Engineering Circular No. 122, 122A dated 18th February 2011, the guideline as mentioned in Para. 4 on the subject are to be implemented with immediate effect.</p> <p>3. LSA service stations where inflatable LSA from Indian ships are permitted to be serviced periodically must have a valid approval from the Directorate General of Shipping (DGS). Such service stations should meet the applicable IMO guidelines, have a quality system, be registered with the local statutory authorities and have competent persons for servicing the appliances. Such competent person/persons will be responsible for activities related to servicing of inflatable LSA in that service station</p> <p>3.1 The approved service stations and the competent persons will be issued necessary certificates valid for a period of 5 years with an intermediate verification between 2nd and 3rd anniversary dates. Onus of making application for Intermediate verification and renewal is on the service station. The Principal Officer of the Mercantile Marine Department (MMD) concerned shall carry out such verifications.</p> <p>3.2 The approved service stations and the competent persons shall route their submission through the Principal Officer MMD concerned for the stated certification clarifying compliance with the applicable IMO and DGS guidelines.</p> <p>3.3 The competent person shall be attached to the approved service station. The approval certificate shall reflect the same. Necessary changes if required can be made with due verification and approval of the Principal Officer.</p> <p>4. Noting the provisions under the IMO guidelines, different make of LSAs being used on the Indian ships, increasing number of ports on the Indian coast and limited number of facilities</p>		

to meet the time bound requirements of the shipping Industry, while carrying out the repair and servicing of various makes of the life saving appliances, the servicing shall be carried at service stations as under:

- 4.1 Service stations approved by the manufacturer of the make and model of the LSA and having appropriately trained, qualified and certified personnel by the manufacturer may carry out servicing of LSA in accordance with the prescribed procedures/manual of the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM). The competent person shall issue certificate of service.
 - 4.2 In the event, the manufacturer's authorised and approved service station is not available in the port, the servicing of LSAs may be undertaken in the presence of a surveyor from Mercantile Marine Department or a surveyor of the recognized organization (RO) in accordance with the prescribed procedures/manual of the OEM. The competent person may issue certificate of serviceability after due endorsement of the attending surveyor.
5. In accordance with the provisions under the quality manual every approved 'LSA' servicing station shall maintain records of servicing and submit the quarterly statement to the Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Department. Certificates of inspection of the LSA issued to Indian ships must have necessary endorsement for receipt of fees from the MMD as applicable.
 6. All expired pyrotechnics must be disposed in accordance with the guidelines under NT Circular 01 of 2015 dated 18.05.2015. Necessary records will be maintained for the use and disposal pyrotechnics.
 7. In case of any breach of above instructions or an adverse report in regard to the approval of competent person, service station, the approval may be withdrawn or suspended and such actions may invite penal provision in accordance with the provisions under the M.S. Act 1958.

This Circular supersedes this office preceding NT Wing/Miscellaneous Circular No. 02 of 2014 dated 04.03.2014, on the aforesaid subject and is issued with the approval of the competent authority.



(Capt. R.K. Muduli)
Nautical Surveyor-cum-DDG (Tech)