

# NCFSAC

9 April 2024

The top-left portion of the slide features a series of thin, white, overlapping geometric lines that form various polygons and shapes, creating a complex, abstract pattern against the blue background.

# SURVIVAL CRAFT SERVICING

Ms. Stephanie Groleau

CG-ENG-4

# AGENDA

TYPE APPROVAL

SERVICING REQUIREMENTS

RESEARCH AND DATA

OPTIONS

RESOURCES

QUESTIONS



# “PROTECTING MAN FROM THE SEA AND THE SEA FROM MAN”

Commercial Regulations and Standards Directorate  
Office of Design and Engineering Standards  
Lifesaving and Fire Safety Division

# AUTHORITIES

46 USC 3306

46 CFR 2.75

Approvals of  
Safety  
Equipment,  
Materials and  
Installations

46 CFR 159

Approval of  
Equipment and  
Materials

46 CFR 160

Lifesaving  
Equipment

Carriage

Title 46:  
Subchapter C  
Subchapter W

International

SOLAS  
LSA Code

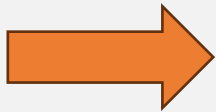
# GENERAL SERVICING REQUIREMENTS

- For all inflatable survival craft - every 12 months (46 CFR 160.151.-57)
- Commercial fishing vessels - every 12 months (46 CFR 28.140)
- Every 2<sup>nd</sup> servicing of davit-launched raft + launching-load test
- At 5<sup>th</sup> year + gas inflation system test
- At 10<sup>th</sup> year and beyond + “Necessary Additional Pressure” test
- 10+ years – cannot make major repairs

# REGULATORY EXCEPTIONS

+ 6 Months

- Stored indoors
- Controlled temperatures



+ 12 Months

- Visually inspected
- Cylinders inspected
- Survival equipment will not expire
- Batteries replaced

2 Years

- New raft
- Survival equipment will not expire
- Not on SOLAS vessel

30 Months

- Approved by USCG IAW MSC.1/Circ.1328
- Crew needs special training
- Only 1 brand currently approved

# RESEARCH & DATA

## Transport Canada

2003

- Focused on condemnation data, not critical problems
- Most condemned rafts serviced <1.5 years prior
- Critical problems occur even at year 1
- 10% probability of condemnation after year 4
- Recommends modifying only domestic rafts
- Canadian data only
- Only 1 raft company's data

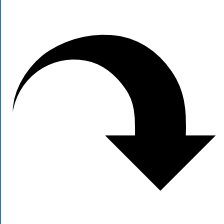
## USCG

2017

- Focus on condemnation with additional servicing data
- Regular servicing yields longer service life (+3.7 years)
- Critical problems occur even at year 1
- Irregular servicing leads to adhesive degradation
- Recommends not modify servicing requirements
- Worldwide data
- All 4 USCG-approved companies

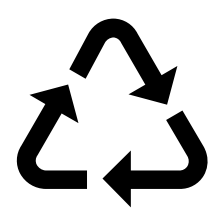


# OPTIONS



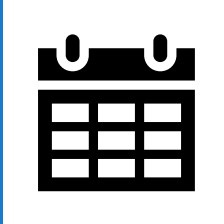
Replacement

New vs. Repair



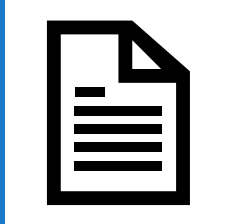
Trade-in

Facility Program



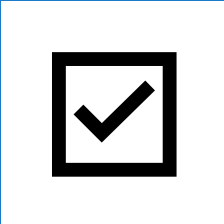
Viking S30

30-month interval



Exemption Letter

Rare



Approved Facility

Contact OCMI



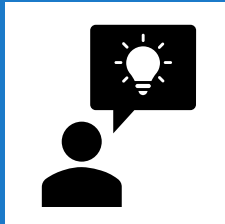
5-month Delay

Vessels Underway



Rigid Raft

Ovatek



Proposals

NCFSAC WG

# RESOURCES

1

[How to Become a Servicing Facility](#)

2

[MSC.1/Circular 1328](#)

3

[ENG-4 Website and FAQs](#)

4

[Facility Database](#)



# THANK YOU

Stephanie Groleau

TypeApproval@uscg.mil