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Ships and marine technology — Servicing of immersion suits, anti-exposure suits and constant wear suits

Navires et technologie maritime — Entretien des combinaisons d'immersion, des vêtements de survie et des combinaisons de port permanent

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 8, *Ships and marine technology*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Maritime safety*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

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Introduction

The IMO International Convention on the Safety of Life at Sea of 1974 (SOLAS 74) sets requirements for the monthly inspection and periodic inspection of life-saving appliances, including immersion suits, anti-exposure suits and constant wear suits. The IMO has circulated guidelines which are not sufficiently detailed as to provide uniform application by crews on board ships and for authorisation of servicing stations.

This document addresses the servicing of immersion suits, anti-exposure suits and constant wear suits. It is intended for use as a companion to the IMO recommendations. It is also intended to encompass all other relevant personal protective suits not covered by SOLAS regulations.

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Ships and marine technology — Servicing of immersion suits, anti-exposure suits and constant wear suits

1 Scope

This document, in conjunction with ISO 18079-1, specifies provisions for servicing stations conducting servicing of immersion suits, anti-exposure suits and constant wear suits, including, but not limited to, those subject to IMO regulations, recommendations and guidelines.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 18079-1, *Ships and marine technology — Servicing of inflatable life-saving appliances — Part 1: General*

ISO 18079-3, *Ships and marine technology — Servicing of inflatable life-saving appliances — Part 3: Inflatable lifejackets*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 18079-1 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp

— IEC Electropedia: available at http://www.electropedia.org/

3.1
immersion suit
protective suit including head, hand and feet protection which reduces the body heat loss of a person wearing it in cold water

3.2
anti-exposure suit
protective suit designed for use by rescue boat crews and marine evacuation system parties, with head and hand protection, but the feet need not be covered, and a minimum buoyancy of 70 N

3.3
constant wear suit
protective suit designed to be routinely worn for activities on or near water in anticipation of accidental immersion in water, but permitting physical activity to such an extent that actions can be undertaken without undue encumbrance and thus, head, hands and feet need not be covered

3.4
dry suit
protective suit designed to protect the user against the effect of cold water immersion by precluding the entry of water upon immersion

3.5
wet suit
protective suit designed to protect the user against the effect of cold water immersion by providing insulation and permitting the entry and exit of water upon immersion

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3.6
helicopter transit suit
constant wear suit (3.3) worn by helicopter occupants

3.7
passenger suit
suit worn by passengers being transported over water

3.8
rescue suit
suit worn by professional users designated to perform search and rescue operations

3.9
flood response suit
suit worn by professional users designated to carry out flood response operations

3.10
floatation suit
suit incorporating *inherent buoyant materials* (3.12) for the purpose of floatation of the wearer in water

3.11
authorized repair station
authorized servicing station
station authorized by the suit manufacturer to perform repairs or servicing and acceptable to the Administration

3.12
inherent buoyant material
material that provides buoyancy, forming a permanent or separate part of the suit, with a density less than that of water

3.13
retro-reflective tape
material that reflects light beams back to their point of origin

3.14
buddy line
length of cord which can be tied or otherwise fixed to another person, or to that person's personal flotation device or other objects, so as to keep a user in the vicinity of that person or object with a view to making location and thus rescue easier

4 Servicing of immersion suits and anti-exposure suits

4.1 General

Immersion and anti-exposure suits encompass dry suits and wet suits intended for planned immersion or emergency abandonment that are not normally used as constant wear.

Periodic servicing and repair of immersion and anti-exposure suits shall be carried out in accordance with the requirements of ISO 18079-1 and the appropriate manufacturer's servicing manual and instructions. The tests and procedures shall include, but not be limited to, those specified in 4.2.

4.2 Inspection, testing and repair

4.2.1 Check closures on storage bag as well as general condition of bag, if provided.

4.2.2 Ensure donning instructions are legible. Confirm that suit is the type and size identified on the bag, if provided.

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