



CAPACITY OF OPEN REVERSIBLE LIFE RAFTS WHEN USED AS BUOYANT APPLIANCES

Application

This equivalent solution applies to the use of Open Reversible Liferrafts as buoyant appliances in operational areas D or E as permitted by NSCV section C7A 5.4.2. It is available for vessels that are required to carry buoyant appliances in accordance with NSCV section C7A, Tables 2, 3 and 4.

Current Requirement

NSCV C7A Annex E2 establishes the requirements for capacity of open reversible liferafts by reference to an international standard. Annex E2 (a) states:

*“An open reversible liferaft shall comply with the requirements specified in —
a) Annex 11 of International Maritime Organization’s Code Safety for High- Speed Craft;”*

Annex 11, provision 2.10 deals with the calculation of carrying capacity of open reversible liferaft.

Equivalent Solution and Guidance

For a vessel operating in operational areas D or E, an open reversible liferaft is an approved equivalent means of complying with the requirements of NSCV section C7A Annex E2(a) if:

- it meets the requirements for an open reversible liferaft, other than clause 2.10, specified in Annex 11 of the International Maritime Organization’s *Code Safety for High- Speed Craft, 2000* (2000 HSC Code) as amended; and
- the number of persons which the open reversible liferaft is permitted to carry is calculated as the lesser of:
 - the greatest whole number obtained by dividing the volume, measured in cubic metres, of the main buoyancy tubes (which for this purpose shall not include the thwarts, if fitted) when inflated by 0.064; or
 - the greatest whole number obtained by dividing the inner horizontal cross-sectional area of the open reversible liferaft measured in square metres (which for this purpose may include the thwart or thwarts, if fitted) measured to the innermost edge of the buoyancy tubes by 0.248; or
 - the number of persons having an average mass of 80 kg, all wearing lifejackets, that can be seated inboard of the buoyancy tubes without interfering with the operation of any of the liferaft’s equipment.

Note: An open reversible liferaft used in D or E waters and applying this equivalence must still comply with the requirements of NSCV C7A Annex E 2(b).

¹This solution is approved by the National Regulator for the purposes of NSCV Part B 1.6.