



Regulatory Requirements for Inflatable and Rigid Inflatable Boats

This solution is approved by the National Regulator for the purposes of section 1.6(1) of Part B (General requirements) of the National Standard for Commercial Vessels (NSCV Part B).

Application

This generic equivalent solution (GES) is available for open inflatable and rigid inflatable boats (RIB) that are required to comply with the requirements of Marine Order 503.

The following particulars are to be met for this GES to be acceptable:

- The vessel must fall within the scope of **ISO 6185 Inflatable Boats Parts 2-4** (as applicable)
- This GES is only applicable for Class 2, 3 and 4 vessels
- This GES is only open to vessels that operate out to and including operational area C, where the vessel has been assessed against the equivalent ISO design category (see Table 5 in National Standard for Commercial Vessels – Part C -Section 3 – Construction). Those vessels assessed against lower level ISO design categories must have their operations restricted accordingly.

Note:

Inflatable and rigid inflatable boats meeting the requirements of **ISO 6185:2001 Inflatable Boats - Part 1 Boats with a maximum motor power rating of 4.5kW** are not able to utilise this GES.

Current requirements

The following parts of the National Standard for Commercial Vessels (NSCV) & Uniform Shipping Laws Code (USL):

- NSCV Part C - Section 1 - Arrangement, Accommodation and Personal Safety
- NSCV Part C - Section 3 - Construction
- NSCV Part C - Section 6 - Stability
- USL Code - Section 5, subsection D, clauses D.9 to D.15 and D.18 to D.36

Equivalence

Vessels that meet the full requirements of ISO 6185 Inflatable Boats Part 2, 3 or 4 (as applicable) meet the required outcomes.

Notes:

Inflatable and rigid inflatable boats carrying passengers must be provided with seating accommodation in accordance with NSCV Part C - Section 1 - Clause 4.11.2.2.

The seating area requirements of **ISO 14946:2001 Small craft – Maximum Load Capacity** may be used in calculating the required seats.

Evidence of Compliance

For an initial survey on a vessel of this type the accredited or attested surveyor may submit the following to demonstrate compliance to a delegate of the National Regulator:

- CE compliance certification documentation;
- a verified photo of the compliant CE mark affixed to the vessel, engine or component;
- a report on the vessels condition and compliance with the requirements of this standard; and
- a recommendation to the National Regulator as to the category of use the vessel is safe to operate in.

It is expected that the attending surveyor will take the necessary steps to ensure that the as-built vessel meets the standards that its documentation indicates it is constructed to, in accordance with the *Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial vessel) National Law Act 2012*.

Alternately, where the vessel does not have CE compliance certification, the design, construction and commissioning phases of the National Standard for Administration of Marine Safety (NSAMS) Section 4.0 are to be undertaken by the accredited surveyor against the requirements of this GES.

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