



Chapter 4 Personal Flotation Devices

Introduction

This chapter contains information about personal flotation devices (PFDs) used aboard cutters and boats. The sections in this chapter reflect approved PFDs and their authorized uses.

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Section A. Personal Flotation Device Policy

Overview

This personal flotation device policy section establishes operational policies and the minimum personal flotation requirements for specific evolutions on Coast Guard vessels. The following policies are established:

- Command responsibility and risk management
 - Minimum flotation requirements
-



A.1 Command Responsibility and Risk Management

A.1.a Command Responsibility

All personnel embarked in shore and cutter based boats and those personnel engaged in specific deck operations on cutters shall wear PFDs as required by reference (i). Commanding Officers and Officers-in-Charge shall ensure flotation requirements established by this chapter are complied with.

A.1.b Risk Management and PFD Selection

The minimum flotation standards required for most Coast Guard vessel operations can be achieved by using the inherently buoyant Coast Guard approved Type III PFD. Specific cutter deck operations require a different flotation standard. Commanding Officers and Officers-In-Charge, in conjunction with the crew, shall determine the most appropriate PFD type to be used during each operational mission or evolution. Mission planning for underway operations as well as dockside maintenance periods shall include an assessment of personal survivability and risk management. This analysis shall be based on the possibility that the crew might be forced into a survival situation during any phase of operations. If the conditions are unknown, personnel shall be prepared for the most adverse conditions by selecting the inherently buoyant Coast Guard approved Type I PFD.

A.1.c Minimum required gear

A personal marker light or strobe light and whistle are not required to be attached when worn with the boat crew survival vest. If the boat crew survival vest is not worn over any authorized PFD, a personal marker light or strobe light and the whistle shall be required.



A.2 Minimum Flotation Requirements

A.2.a Minimum Flotation Requirements

It is not possible to identify all operational evolutions and assign or establish a minimum flotation requirement for each. However, the risks associated with some operations have been evaluated and the following minimum flotation requirements shall be complied with for the given operations identified. Commanding Officers and Officers-in-Charge shall evaluate all operations not presented for risk at the unit level and apply the appropriate flotation requirements.

A.2.b Shore and Cutter Based Boat Operations

The Coast Guard approved Type III PFD is established as the inherently buoyant minimum flotation requirement for shore and cutter based boat operations. This policy includes law enforcement boarding operations. Alternatives to this requirement include:

- Stearns® Model I600 Type I
 - Mustang Survival MD3031 with survival equipment pockets
 - Mustang Survival MD3183 with survival equipment pockets
 - Mustang Survival MD0450 version 22
 - Lifesaving Systems Life Preserver Survival Vest
 - Lifesaving Systems 481CG or 481CGM
 - Anti Exposure Coveralls with boat crew survival vest
 - Flotation Jacket with boat crew survival vest
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A.2.c Cutter Towing and Buoy Deck Operations

The minimum flotation requirement for cutter towing and buoy deck operations is established as the inherently buoyant Coast Guard approved Type III PFD. Alternatives to this requirement include:

- Stearns® Model I600 Type I
 - Flotation Jacket
 - Anti Exposure Coveralls
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A.2.d
Markings

PFDs, anti-exposure coveralls, and float coats worn during maritime law enforcement shall be orange and/or orange-black in color, be free of manufacturer's emblems on the outside of the garment and marked as follows:

- On the left breast, with a Coast Guard emblem as described in Title 33 CFR Subpart 23. The emblem shall have a diameter of three inches, plus or minus ¼ inch.
- On the right breast, with a Coast Guard ensign as described in Title 33 CFR Subpart 23. The ensign shall measure 2½ inches in height and 3½ inches in width, plus or minus ¼ inch.
- In the center of the back, with the words "U.S. COAST GUARD" in block letters measuring 2½ inches plus or minus ½ inch. Lettering shall be solid black or white in color against the international orange background.

Identification markings should be applied using a silk-screen process or embroidered patch. Silk-screened markings are available from manufacturers or distributors. The embroidered patch may be procured locally and sewn or attached to the garment using adhesive.

A.2.e
Tactical
Operations

The minimum flotation requirement for Tactical operations is established as the inherently buoyant Coast Guard Approved Type III PFD. Options to this requirement include the following:

- Tactical Flotation Support System, TFSS-5326 (O)
 - Stearns® Model I600 Type I
 - Mustang Survival MD3031 with survival equipment pockets
 - Mustang Survival MD3183 with survival equipment pockets
 - Lifesaving Systems Life Preserver Survival Vest
 - Anti Exposure Coveralls with boat crew survival vest
 - Flotation Jacket with boat crew survival vest
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Section B. Coast Guard Approved Inherently Buoyant PFDs

Overview

This section describes the Coast Guard approved inherently buoyant devices and the policies pertaining to their use. The following items are presented:

- Stearns® Model I600 Type I
 - Type III
 - Dynamic Strength Tested Type III
 - Survivors Type I
 - Type III Flotation Jacket
 - Anti-Exposure Coveralls (see chapter 3)
-



B.1 Stearns® Model I600 Type I

B.1.a Application



The Stearns® Model I600 Type I PFD is used as the standard abandon ship PFD and is intended to replace the Navy Standard PFD with Collar on an attrition basis. In addition, this PFD may be used by Coast Guard boat and cutter crews as directed by the unit Commanding Officer/Officer-In-Charge, based on conditions encountered that may require a higher level of flotation characteristics than the Coast Guard-approved Type III device. This device provides greater mobility than the survivors Type I when the use of law enforcement or other types of gear are required. When the Stearns® model I600 is selected for use on shore and cutter based boat missions, the boat crew survival vest shall be worn over it by all coxswains, crewmembers, boarding officers and boarding team members.

The Stearns® Model I600 is the only Coast Guard-Approved Type I PFD authorized for military law enforcement/boat crewmember's use.

WARNING

THE STEARNS® MODEL I600 TYPE I PFD IS NOT DYNAMIC STRENGTH TESTED FOR HIGH SPEED BOAT OPERATIONS.

B.1.b Configuration

The Stearns® Model I600 Type I PFD is a low profile, inherently buoyant, and universally sized device that will turn an unconscious or exhausted crewmember face up while in the water and wearing law enforcement equipment such as weapons and ballistic panel inserts. It provides 22 pounds buoyancy. A harness D-ring slit is cut into the back panel to facilitate the tending harness D-ring. A pocket is installed on the front to hold a strobe light and whistle. Two models are available.

- The Stearns® model I600 ORG NLT includes the flat orange whistle and the ACR Firefly III strobe light.
- The Stearns® model I600 ORG NAV does not include the strobe light or the flat orange whistle.

When this PFD is used as the abandon ship PFD, the strobe light and whistle shall be attached. When this PFD is used for shore and cutter based boat missions, the boat crew survival vest shall be worn over the PFD and the strobe and whistle are not required to be attached to the PFD.



**B.1.c
Maintenance
and Repair**

Maintenance is limited to cleaning after use or as required. Cleaning in a solution of water and disinfectant/detergent, national stock number 7930 01 346 4289, is most effective for heavily soiled PFDs. Rinse with fresh water and hand dry on a wooden hanger to completely dry before storing. Repairs are limited to the unit's capability to repair the device.

**B.1.d
Inspection**

Build-up, semi-annual and post use inspection procedures are contained in the applicable Maintenance Procedure Card.

**B.1.e
Supply Sources**

Procure the USCG approved type I PFD, meeting any salient characteristics and other requirements specified above, in accordance with reference (c). See Appendix A for additional known ordering information.



B.2 Type III

B.2.a Application



The Coast Guard-approved Type III PFD is used by Coast Guard boat and cutter crews as directed by the unit Commanding Officer/Officer-In-Charge, based on conditions not requiring the use of a Type I device.



This device provides the best mobility for cutter crewmembers working over the side and boat crewmembers as the normal outfit. When the Type III is selected for use on shore and cutter based boat missions, the boat crew survival vest shall be worn over it by all coxswains, crewmembers, boarding officers, boarding team members and inspection teams.

WARNING

THE COAST GUARD-APPROVED TYPE III PFD WILL NOT TURN AN UNCONSCIOUS OR EXHAUSTED CREWMEMBER FACE UP IN THE WATER.

B.2.b Configuration

The Type III vest shall be USCG approved, international orange in color, have SOLAS-grade reflective tape installed for increased visibility in low-light environments, and a D-ring for attachment of a Lanyard/Kill-switch. The vest may be of a solid nylon or mesh on the upper half design. The vest shall be marked IAW paragraph 4.A.2.e. This is a low profile, vest type and inherently buoyant PFD that provides the most mobility. The vest provides 15 ½ pounds buoyancy. A personal marker light or strobe light and whistle are not required to be attached when worn in conjunction with the boat crew survival vest. If the boat crew survival vest is not worn over this PFD, a personal marker light or strobe light and the whistle are required.

B.2.c Maintenance and Repair

Maintenance is limited to cleaning after use or as required. Cleaning in a solution of water and disinfectant/detergent, national stock number 7930 01 346 4289, is most effective for heavily soiled PFDs. Fresh water rinse and hang dry completely before storing. Repairs are limited to the unit's capability to repair the device.



**B.2.d
Inspection** Build-up, semi-annual and post use inspection procedures are contained in the applicable Maintenance Procedure Card.

**B.2.e
Supply
Sources** Procure the USCG approved type III PFD, meeting any salient characteristics and other requirements specified above, in accordance with reference (c). See Appendix A for additional known ordering information.



B.3 Dynamic Strength Tested Type III

B.3.a Application



Dynamic Strength tested Type III PFDs may be used for high speed boat operations at the discretion of the Commanding Officer/Officer In Charge. The dynamic strength rating is indicated on the Coast Guard approval label in statute miles per hour. Dynamic strength ratings certify that the PFD has been tested by Underwriters Laboratories®, at the request of the manufacturer, to determine if the PFD will come off of the wearer after impact with the water up to the speed indicated on the Coast Guard approval label. When dynamic strength tested type III PFDs are selected for use on shore and cutter based boat missions, all coxswains, crewmembers, boarding officers, boarding team members and inspection teams shall wear the boat crew survival vest over it.

WARNING

THE DYNAMIC STRENGTH TESTED TYPE III PFD WILL NOT TURN AN UNCONSCIOUS OR EXHAUSTED CREWMEMBER FACE UP IN THE WATER.

WARNING

DYNAMIC STRENGTH RATINGS ARE NOT INDICATIONS OF IMPACT PROTECTION FOR THE WEARER.

B.3.b Configuration

Dynamic strength tested Type III PFDs are typically configured the same as those PFDs that are not dynamic strength tested with the same or all of the following additions:

- Full torso length zippers
- Additional torso circumference belts
- Crotch straps

Generally, the more secure the PFD is when worn the higher the dynamic strength rating. Dynamic strength tested Type III PFDs provide 15 1/2 pounds buoyancy.



**B.3.c
Maintenance
and Repair**

Maintenance is limited to cleaning after use or as required. Cleaning in a solution of water and disinfectant/detergent, national stock number 7930 01 346 4289, is most effective for heavily soiled PFDs. Rinse with fresh water and hang dry on a wooden hanger completely before storing. Repairs are limited to the unit's capability to repair the device.

**B.3.d
Inspection**

Build-up, semi-annual and post use inspection procedures are contained in the applicable Maintenance Procedure Card.

**B.3.e
Supply Sources**

Procure the USCG approved Dynamic Strength tested PFDs, meeting any salient characteristics and other requirements specified above, in accordance with reference (c). See Appendix A for additional known ordering information.

- The 320-CG is dynamic strength tested to 35 statute miles per hour.
 - The 460-CG is dynamic strength tested to 50 statute miles per hour.
 - The 430-CG is dynamic strength tested to 100 statute miles per hour.
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B.4 Survivors Type I

B.4.a Application



The Coast Guard approved survivors Type I PFD is intended for use by passengers, prisoners, and other non-mission essential personnel. Coast Guard boat and cutter crews shall not use this device as their PFD standard because of the mobility restricting nature of this device.

B.4.b Salient Characteristics

Any reversible Coast Guard Approved Type I PFD certified in accordance with 46 CFR 160.001. SOLAS tape is required. The color of the vest shall be international orange.

B.4.c Maintenance and Repair

Maintenance is limited to cleaning after use or as required. Cleaning in a solution of water and disinfectant/detergent, national stock number 7930 01 346 4289, is most effective for heavily soiled PFDs. Rinse with fresh water and hang dry on a wooden hanger completely before storing. Repairs are limited to the unit's capability to repair the device.

B.4.d Inspection

Build-up, semi-annual and post use inspection procedures are contained in the applicable Maintenance Procedure Card.

B.4.e Supply Sources

Procure USCG approved Survivors type I PFDs, meeting any salient characteristics and other requirements specified above, in accordance with reference (c). See Appendix A for additional known ordering information.



B.5 Type III Flotation Jacket

B.5.a Application

The Coast Guard-approved Type III flotation jacket (Float Coat) may be used by Coast Guard personnel working on or near the water. This jacket can be used in lieu of vest type, Type III PFDs when air and water temperatures are not cold enough to warrant the use of anti-exposure coveralls or dry suits. Refer to Figure 3-1. When Type III flotation jackets are selected for use on shore and cutter based boat missions, all coxswains, crewmembers, boarding officers, boarding team members and inspection teams shall wear the flotation jacket under the boat crew survival vest.

B.5.b Configuration

The Type III flotation jacket is a bomber style, waist length inherently buoyant jacket that provides 15 1/2 pounds buoyancy. The jacket is available in international orange or an international orange and black combination with retro-reflective tape applied for increased visibility in low-light environments. The jacket shall be marked IAW paragraph A.2.e. A personal marker light or strobe light and whistle are not required to be attached when worn with the boat crew survival vest. If the boat crew survival vest is not worn over this PFD, a personal marker light or strobe light and the whistle are required.

NOTE

Flotation jackets shall be orange or orange / black color combination. Colors other than orange or orange / black color combination are specifically not authorized for procurement and/or use as personal protective equipment for the Coast Guard.

WARNING

THE TYPE III FLOTATION JACKET WILL NOT TURN AN UNCONSCIOUS OR EXHAUSTED CREWMEMBER FACE UP IN THE WATER.

WARNING

THE TYPE III FLOTATION JACKET IS NOT DYNAMIC STRENGTH TESTED FOR HIGH SPEED BOAT OPERATIONS.

B.5.c Maintenance and Repair

Maintenance is limited to cleaning after use or as required. Cleaning in a solution of water and disinfectant/detergent, national stock number 7930 01 346 4289, is most effective for heavily soiled PFDs. Rinse with fresh water and hang dry on a wooden hanger completely before storing. Repairs are limited to the units' capability to repair the device.



**B.5.d
Inspection**

Build-up, semi-annual and post use inspection procedures are contained in the applicable Maintenance Procedure Card.

**B.5.e
Supply Sources**

Procure USCG approved floatation jackets, meeting any salient characteristics and other requirements specified above, in accordance with reference (c). See Appendix A for additional known ordering information.



Section C. Non-Coast Guard Approved Cutter Specific PFDs

Overview

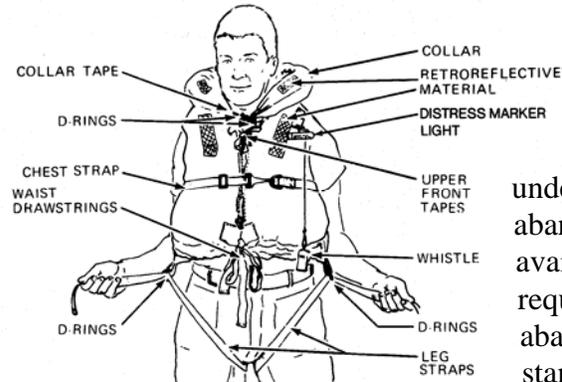
This section describes the Non-Coast Guard approved inherently buoyant devices and the policies pertaining to their use. The following items are presented:

- Standard Navy PFD with Collar
 - Abandon Ship Life Preserver
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C.1 Standard Navy PFD with Collar

C.1.a Application



The standard Navy PFD with collar is required for use by cutter crewmembers at general quarters or engaged in underway replenishment, towing, and abandon ship operations. When available, ship's personnel are required to use survival suits during abandon ship operations. The standard Navy PFD with collar is also routinely used on weather decks

during heavy weather.

C.1.b Configuration

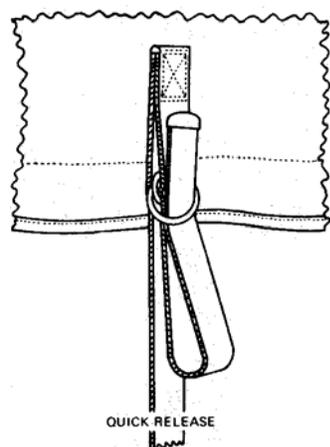
The standard Navy PFD with collar is an inherently buoyant international orange, sleeveless, vest type PFD constructed of a nylon or cotton outer shell filled with removable unicellular plastic pads or kapok. Adjustment straps and ties allow for sizing over a wide range. Leg straps are incorporated to keep the PFD from riding up on the wearer and keeping the PFD on when jumping into the water from high freeboard vessels. It will turn an exhausted or unconscious crewmember face up while in the water while providing 32 pounds buoyancy. This PFD allows for complete relaxation while in the water and enables the wearer to assume positions that preserve body heat and extend survival time. A personal marker light or strobe light and a whistle shall be attached to the device.



**C.1.c
Donning**

Use the following procedure to put on the standard Navy PFD with collar:

1. Don the PFD as you would a vest.
2. Secure the chest-strap snap hook on the right side to the D-ring on the left and pull strap tight around the chest.
3. Extend the leg straps hanging from the rear waist area and route through legs from the rear to the front.
4. Insert the right leg strap through the right double D-rings hanging from the side waist area and route the bitter end over the top D-ring and through the bottom. Pull all slack from the strap. Rig strap for quick release as shown in the figure below. Repeat for the left leg strap.



5. Pull waist drawstrings tight and secure with a bowknot.
6. Tie upper front tapes together with a bowknot.
7. Secure collar tapes through collar D-rings and tie with a bowknot.

**C.1.d
Maintenance
and Repair**

Maintenance is limited to cleaning after use or as required. Remove unicellular plastic flotation pads prior to cleaning. Cleaning in a solution of water and disinfectant/detergent, national stock number 7930 01 346 4289, is most effective for heavily soiled PFDs. Rinse with fresh water and hang dry on a wooden hanger completely before storing. Repairs are limited to the unit's capability to repair the device.

**C.1.e
Inspection**

Build-up, semi-annual and post use inspection procedures are contained in the applicable Maintenance Procedure Card.

**C.1.f
Supply Sources**

The standard Navy PFD with collar is no longer available for procurement. The Stearns® model I600 is the replacement. See Section B.1 above.



C.2 Abandon Ship Life Preserver

C.2.a Application



The Abandon Ship Life Preserver is used by cutter crewmembers in high heat areas and/or confined spaces during general emergency conditions.

C.2.b Configuration

The Abandon Ship Life Preserver is a single chambered, manual CO₂ or orally inflated device constructed of urethane-coated nylon cloth. When properly donned and fully inflated this preserver provides 35 pounds of buoyancy. The assembly consists of an integrated adjustable waist belt with buckle, storage pouch, and inflatable chamber. A strip of pile tape is installed on the inflatable chamber for attachment of a strobe light after inflation. Enclosed in the storage pouch is a toggle line and loop assembly used for securing survivors together or securing the wearer to a liferaft, a personal strobe light, and a whistle.

C.2.c Donning, Adjusting and Inflating

Use the following procedures to don, adjust, and inflate the Abandon Ship Life Preserver:

1. Buckle the waist belt around the waist with the pouch to the rear.
 2. Adjust the waist belt to allow rotation of the pouch to the stomach area.
 3. When required, unsnap the pouch, unroll the inflatable chamber, and pass head through yoke opening.
 4. Inflate the preserver by pulling the yellow inflation lanyard with a slow steady pull until the inflation assembly actuates.
 5. If the CO₂ inflation assembly fails, orally inflate preserver by unscrewing the knurled ring, depressing the mouthpiece, and blowing into the oral inflation tube.
-

C.2.d Maintenance and Repair

Seawater rapidly degrades the survival items of this device. Fresh water rinsing and complete drying of the survival items may be required after each use. Particular attention should be given to the pyrotechnics. Remove pyrotechnics and fresh water rinse and completely dry before re-stowing. Required maintenance shall be accomplished in accordance with the applicable MPC. No repairs are authorized to this PFD or equipment pocket. Inflatable chamber and inflation assembly repairs are not authorized; contact the manufacturer for repairs and replacement parts.



C.2.e
Inspection

Build-up, semi-annual and post use inspection procedures are contained in the applicable Maintenance Procedure Card.

C.2.f
Supply Sources

Procure the abandon ship life preserver, meeting any salient characteristics and other requirements specified above, in accordance with reference (c). See Appendix A for additional known ordering information.



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Section D. Non-Coast Guard Approved Automatic/Manual Inflatable PFDs

Overview

This section describes the Non-Coast Guard approved automatic/manual inflatable devices and the policies pertaining to their use. Each of the devices presented requires completion of an associated performance qualification standard that is unique to the specific device. The performance qualification standard shall be completed and placed in the members training record prior to using the PFD. In addition, the items presented have been approved for use by boat crewmembers and boarding team members only after meeting established functional and configuration requirements. Similar products from other vendors may be available; however, prior to procurement and use, similar products shall be evaluated and approved for use by the Rescue and Survival Systems Program Manager. The following items are presented:

- Mustang Survival MD3031 w/ survival equipment pocket
- Lifesaving Systems Life Preserver Survival Vest
- Lifesaving Systems 481CG or 481 CGM
- Mustang Survival MD3183 w/survival equipment pocket
- Mustang Survival MD0450 version 22

WARNING

THE NON-COAST GUARD APPROVED AUTOMATIC/MANUAL INFLATABLE PFDS PRESENTED IN THIS SECTION ARE NOT DYNAMIC STRENGTH TESTED FOR HIGH SPEED BOAT OPERATIONS.

WARNING

AUTOMATICALLY INFLATABLE PFDS ARE KNOWN TO HINDER EGRESS IN AN ENCLOSED CABIN ENVIRONMENT AND ARE NOT AUTHORIZED FOR USE ON HELICOPTERS.



D.1. Mustang Survival MD3031 w/ Survival Equipment Pocket

D.1.a Application



The Mustang Survival MD3031 w/ survival equipment pocket may be used on shore and cutter based boat missions by coxswains, crewmembers, boarding officers and boarding team members who have completed the Mustang Survival MD3031 performance qualification standard. The Mustang Survival MD3031 is optional equipment that can be used in lieu of inherently buoyant PFDs and boat crew survival vest combination. The Mustang Survival MD3031 is an automatic/manual inflatable PFD and survival equipment pocket for carrying survival items required during operational missions. The Mustang Survival MD3031 can be worn over ODU, anti-exposure coveralls, dry suits or float coats on all missions. The survival items of the Mustang Survival MD3031 survival equipment pocket shall not be removed to other devices.

WARNING

HARNESSES OF ALL TYPES, SUCH AS THE BOAT SWIMMER HARNESS AND OTHER CLIMBING SAFETY HARNESSES, SHALL NOT BE USED WITH AUTOMATICALLY INFLATING PFDS. HARNESSES WORN OVER INFLATABLE PFDS CAN RESTRICT THE OUTWARD INFLATING ACTION AND MAY PREVENT BREATHING OR CAUSE CRUSHING INJURIES TO THE UPPER TORSO.

WARNING

AUTOMATICALLY INFLATABLE PFDS ARE KNOWN TO HINDER EGRESS IN AN ENCLOSED CABIN ENVIRONMENT AND ARE NOT AUTHORIZED FOR USE ON HELICOPTERS.



**D.1.b
Configuration**

The Mustang Survival MD3031 is a low profile inflatable buoyancy chamber and a survival equipment pocket attached to a nylon webbing support harness. The buoyancy chamber and equipment pocket are orange nylon material with Coast Guard markings and retro-reflective tape is applied for increased visibility in low-light environments. An automatic/manual inflatable flotation chamber provides 35 pounds of buoyant lift capability. The inflation assembly is a carbon dioxide cylinder actuator that is manually inflated by pulling the beaded inflation lanyard or automatically inflates upon submersion in fresh water or seawater. All survival items shall be secured to the survival equipment pocket in accordance with the MPC. The Mustang Survival MD3031 is available as one size fits all and has a waist adjustment strap for fitting to individual comfort.

**D.1.c
Maintenance
and Repair**

Seawater rapidly degrades the survival items of this device. Fresh water rinsing and complete drying of the survival items may be required after each use. Particular attention should be given to the pyrotechnics. Remove pyrotechnics and fresh water rinse dry on a wooden hanger completely before re-stowing. Required maintenance shall be accomplished in accordance with MPC. No repairs are authorized to this PFD or equipment pocket. Inflatable chamber and inflation assembly repairs are not authorized; contact the manufacturer for repairs and replacement parts.

**D.1.d
Inspection**

Build-up, acceptance, monthly chemical pill change, semi-annual inspection and annual functional testing procedures are contained in the applicable Maintenance Procedure Card.

**D.1.e
Supply Sources**

Procure the PFD inflation assembly and survival equipment pocket (MA6000), meeting any salient characteristics and other requirements specified above, in accordance with reference (c). See Appendix A for additional known ordering information.



D.2. Mustang Survival MD3183 w/ Survival Equipment Pockets

D.2.a Application



The Mustang Survival MD3183 v22 w/ survival equipment pockets may be used on shore and cutter based boat missions by coxswains, crewmembers, boarding officers and boarding team members who have completed the Mustang Survival MD3183 v22 performance qualification standard. The Mustang Survival MD3183 v22 is optional equipment that can be used in lieu of inherently buoyant PFDs and boat crew survival vest combination. The Mustang Survival MD3183 v22 is an automatic/manual inflatable PFD and w/survival equipment pockets for carrying survival items required during operational missions. The Mustang Survival MD3183 v22 can be worn over ODU, anti-exposure coveralls, dry suits or float coats on all missions. The survival items of the Mustang Survival MD3183 v22 survival equipment pockets shall not be removed to other devices.

WARNING

HARNESSES OF ALL TYPES, SUCH AS THE BOAT SWIMMER HARNESS AND OTHER CLIMBING SAFETY HARNESSES, SHALL NOT BE USED WITH AUTOMATICALLY INFLATING PFDs. HARNESSES WORN OVER INFLATABLE PFDs CAN RESTRICT THE OUTWARD INFLATING ACTION AND MAY PREVENT BREATHING OR CAUSE CRUSHING INJURIES TO THE UPPER TORSO.

WARNING

AUTOMATICALLY INFLATABLE PFDs ARE KNOWN TO HINDER EGRESS IN AN ENCLOSED CABIN ENVIRONMENT AND ARE NOT AUTHORIZED FOR USE ON HELICOPTERS.



**D.2.b
Configuration**

The Mustang Survival MD3183 v22 is a low profile inflatable buoyancy chamber and a survival equipment pockets attached to a nylon webbing support harness. The buoyancy chamber and equipment pocket are orange nylon material with Coast Guard markings and retro-reflective tape is applied for increased visibility in low-light environments. An automatic/manual inflatable flotation inflatable chamber provides 35 pounds of buoyant lift capability. The inflation assembly is a carbon dioxide cylinder actuator that is manually inflated by pulling the beaded inflation lanyard or automatically inflates upon submersion in fresh water or seawater. The Mustang Survival MD3183 v22 is available as one size fits all and has a waist adjustment strap for fitting to individual comfort.

**D.2.c
Maintenance
and Repair**

Seawater rapidly degrades the survival items of this device. Fresh water rinsing and complete drying of the survival items may be required after each use. Particular attention should be given to the pyrotechnics. Remove pyrotechnics and fresh water rinse and completely dry before re-stowing. Required maintenance shall be accomplished in accordance with MPC. No repairs are authorized to this PFD or equipment pocket. Inflatable chamber and inflation assembly repairs are not authorized; contact the manufacturer for repairs and replacement parts.

**D.2.d
Inspection**

Build-up, acceptance, monthly chemical pill change, semi-annual inspection and annual functional testing procedures are contained in the applicable Maintenance Procedure Card.

**D.2.e
Supply Sources**

Procure the MD3183 v22 and survival equipment pockets, meeting any salient characteristics and other requirements specified above, in accordance with reference (c). See Appendix A for additional known ordering information.



D.3 Lifesaving Systems Life Preserver Survival Vest

D.3.a Application



The Life Preserver Survival Vest (LPSV) may be used on shore and cutter based boat missions by coxswains, crewmembers, boarding officers and boarding team members who have completed the LPSV performance qualification standard. The LPSV is optional equipment that can be used in lieu of the inherently buoyant PFD and survival vest combination. The LPSV is an automatic/manual inflatable PFD with pockets for carrying survival items required during operational missions. The LPSV can be worn over the ODU, anti-exposure coveralls, dry suits or float coats on all missions. The survival items of the LPSV shall not be removed to other devices.

WARNING

HARNESSES OF ALL TYPES, SUCH AS THE BOAT SWIMMER HARNESSES AND OTHER CLIMBING SAFETY HARNESSES, SHALL NOT BE USED WITH AUTOMATICALLY INFLATING PFDs. HARNESSES WORN OVER INFLATABLE PFDs CAN RESTRICT THE OUTWARD INFLATING ACTION AND MAY PREVENT BREATHING OR CAUSE CRUSHING INJURIES TO THE UPPER TORSO.

WARNING

AUTOMATICALLY INFLATABLE PFDs ARE KNOWN TO HINDER EGRESS IN AN ENCLOSED CABIN ENVIRONMENT AND ARE NOT AUTHORIZED FOR USE ON HELICOPTERS.



**D.3.b
Configuration**

The LPSV is an orange nylon mesh vest with Coast Guard markings and retro-reflective tape is applied for increased visibility in low-light environments. Incorporated in the vest are 2 stowage pockets used to store a MK-124 marine smoke and illumination signal, MK-79 illumination signal kit, strobe light, signal mirror, PLB and whistle. A survival knife mounting strap is sandwiched between the inflatable chamber and the vest's mesh carrier. An automatic manual inflatable flotation chamber provides 35 pounds of buoyant lift capability. The inflation assembly is a carbon dioxide cylinder actuator that is manually inflated by pulling the beaded inflation lanyard or automatically inflates upon submersion in fresh water or seawater. The vest is available as one-size-fits-all and has a waist adjustment strap for fitting to individual comfort.

**D.3.c
Maintenance
and Repair**

Seawater rapidly degrades the survival items of the vest. Fresh water rinsing and complete drying of the survival items may be required after each use. Particular attention should be given to the pyrotechnics. Remove pyrotechnics and fresh water rinse and completely dry before re-stowing. Required maintenance shall be accomplished in accordance with maintenance procedure. Repair is limited to minor re-stitching of pockets to mesh and survival item replacement. Inflatable flotation chamber and inflation assembly repairs are not authorized; contact the manufacturer for inflatable chamber or inflation assembly replacements.

**D.3.d
Inspection**

Build-up, acceptance, monthly chemical pill change, semi-annual inspection and annual functional testing procedures are contained in the applicable Maintenance Procedure Card.

**D.3.e
Supply Sources**

Procure the LPSV, meeting any salient characteristics and other requirements specified above, in accordance with reference (c). See Appendix A for additional known ordering information.



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