

# Marine Safety Center Guidelines for Review of Liftboat General Arrangement Plans

Procedure Number T1-35

Revision Date: 4/11/00

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## References

- a. 46 CFR Subchapter I, Part 92
  - b. 46 CFR Subchapter L, Part 127
  - c. 8<sup>th</sup> District Policy Letter “Persons Allowed on Liftboats,” dated October 9, 1998
  - d. Navigation and Inspection Circular 8-91, “Initial and Subsequent Inspection of Existing, Uncertificated Supply Vessels, including Liftboats”
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## Disclaimer

These guidelines were developed by the Marine Safety Center staff as an aid in the preparation and review of vessel plans and submissions. They were developed to supplement existing guidance. They are not intended to substitute or replace laws, regulations, or other official Coast Guard policy documents. The responsibility to demonstrate compliance with all applicable laws and regulations still rests with the plan submitter. The Coast Guard and the U. S. Department of Transportation expressly disclaim liability resulting from the use of this document.

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## Contact Information

If you have any questions or comments concerning this document, please contact the Marine Safety Center by e-mail or phone. Please refer to the Procedure Number: T1-35

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## General Review Guidance

Specify the applicability to 46 CFR Subchapter (I) or 46 CFR Subchapter (L).

Verify all spaces are identified and designated on the plans.

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## Liftboats Certificated Under Subchapter I

Ensure compliance with the following:

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Liftboats  
Certificated Under  
Subchapter I

- Means of Escape (46 CFR 92.10):
  - Two means of escape must be provided from all general areas where the crew may be quartered or normally employed
  - The two means of escape must be as remote as practicable
  - Vertical ladder to a deck scuttle may be a means of escape if installation of another stairway/passageway is not practicable
  - No dead-end corridors can be greater than 40 ft in length
  - Any public space with an area greater than 300 ft<sup>2</sup> must have 2 means of escape
  - There must be direct access/route to the lifeboats
  - Stairway width must be > 28", with an inclination < 50 degrees
  
- Accommodations for Officers and Crew (46 CFR 92.20):
  - No crew quarters may be located forward of 5% length
  - No direct communication is permitted between crew spaces and chain lockers or machinery spaces
  - No crew spaces may be located below the deepest load waterline
  - There may be no more than 4 persons/room
  - 1 toilet, 1 washbasin, and 1 shower or bathtub must be provided for every 8 members or portion thereof in the crew who do not occupy rooms to which private or semi-private facilities are attached
  - Messroom must be located as near the galley as practicable, unless it is equipped with a steam table
  - Ensure there are no more than 2 tiers to a bunk
  - A locker must be provided for each person accommodated in a room
  - The minimum room height is 75"
  - If voyage >3 days and carries a crew of 12+, a hospital space is required (46 CFR 92.20-35)
  
- Persons Allowed (Reference (c) and page 6 of enclosure (3) to Reference (d)):
  - The number of persons allowed to be berthed is specified on the vessel's COI. The overall number of bunks can not exceed this number.
  
- Rails and Guards (46 CFR 92.25):
  - Vessels contracted for prior to July 1, 1969 must comply with 46 CFR 92.25-90
  - The opening below the lowest course shall not be > 9" and the other courses shall not be > 15" apart
  - Rails are required for decks and bridges
  - The overall height must be greater than 39.5"

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- At exposed peripheries of freeboard and super structure deck, the rails shall be in at least three (3) courses, including the top
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Liftboats  
Certificated Under  
Subchapter L

Ensure compliance with the following:

- Means of Escape (46 CFR 127.240):
  - Two means of escape are required for each space accessible to offshore workers, crew accommodations, or where crew are normally employed (if area > 300 ft<sup>2</sup>, or max. dimension > 20 ft). Windows or portholes may not be included.
  - 1 of the 2 means must be independent of watertight doors and lead directly to open deck
  - The two means of escape must be as remote as practicable
  - Vertical ladder to a deck scuttle may be a means of escape if the primary escape is a stairway/passageway, installation of another stairway/passageway is not practicable, and scuttle can't be covered with deck cargo
  - No dead-end passageways can be greater than 40 ft in length
  - Each vertical ladder must have an angle of inclination angle between 70 to 90 degrees
  - Interior passageway/stairway must have a width > 28" and an inclination angle < 50 degrees
  - Exterior ladders must have an inclination angle < 70 degrees, except to house tops used only for weather protection
- Carriage of Offshore Workers (46 CFR 126.170 and reference (c)):
  - The maximum number of persons who may be berthed on the liftboat is the crew plus 36 or fewer offshore workers as specified in the vessel's COI.
- Location of Accommodations and Pilothouse (46 CFR 127.270):
  - No crew quarters or pilot house may be located forward of collision bulkhead
  - No direct communication is permitted between crew spaces and chain lockers, cargo spaces or machinery spaces
  - No sounding tubes, vents, or access openings from fuel-oil or cargo-oil tanks may open into any accommodation spaces
  - Quarters for crew and offshore workers must be separate, unless authorized by OCMI

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- Construction and Arrangement of Quarters for Crew Members (46 CFR 127.280):
  - Vessels >100 GT
    - There may be no more than 4 berths/room
    - 1 toilet, 1 washbasin, and 1 shower or bathtub must be provided for every 8 or fewer crew members who do not occupy rooms to which private or semi-private facilities are attached
    - There must be at least 6.25 ft of headroom
    - There must be at least 30 ft<sup>2</sup> of deck area and 210 ft<sup>3</sup> of volume per person accommodated in a room
  - Vessels <100 GT
    - Accommodations of adequate size and construction must be provided, with equipment for his or her protection and convenience suitable to size, facilities, and service of the vessel
  
- Construction and Arrangement of Accommodations for Offshore Workers (46 CFR 127.280):
  - Vessels >100 GT
    - Fixed seating for offshore workers:
      - Width of each seat should be 18"
      - Aisles <15' long must be at least 24" wide
      - Aisles >15' long must be at least 30" wide
      - Where the seating is in rows, the distance from seat front to seat front must be at least 30"
    - If carrying offshore workers for more than 24 hours,
      - Quarters must be provided with no more than 6 berths/room
      - There must be at least 6.25 ft of headroom
      - There must be at least 20 ft<sup>2</sup> of deck area and 140 ft<sup>3</sup> of volume per person accommodated in a room
    - 1 toilet, 1 washbasin, and 1 shower or bathtub must be provided for every 8 or fewer offshore workers who do not occupy rooms to which private or semi-private facilities are attached
  - Vessels <100 GT
    - Accommodations of adequate size and construction must be provided, with equipment for his or her protection and convenience suitable to size, facilities, and service of the vessel
  
- Damaged Stability (46 CFR 174.200):
  - There must be 30" side protection around engine room

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- Rails and Guards (46 CFR 127.310):
  - The opening below the lowest course shall not be > 9” and the other courses shall not be > 15” apart
  - Rails are required for decks and bridges
  - The overall height must be greater than 39.5”
  - At exposed peripheries of freeboard and super structure deck, the rails shall be in at least three (3) courses, including the top