

## Immersion or Exposure Suits

### Links to applicable regulations

- [46 CFR 28.110](#) - Requirements
- [46 CFR 25.25](#) - General
- [46 CFR 28.135](#) - Markings
- [46 CFR 28.140](#) - Readiness, maintenance, inspection
- [NVIC 1-08](#) - Testing of immersion suits
- [NVIC 1-87](#) - Installation of retro-reflective material
- [Washington State University PFD study](#)

### Checklist for immersion or exposure suits

	At least one immersion or exposure suit of the proper type and size per individual.
	Coast Guard approved
	Inspected annually for material condition and serviceability.
	Each device stowed in a location to be readily accessible.
	Marked with vessel name, name of owner or person to whom assigned.
	Test zipper for function entire length
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Lubricate with manufacturer recommended lubricant. Petroleum based products can damage the suit material.</li></ul>
	Check material condition of the suit and the storage bag.
	Retro-reflective material on the suit in serviceable condition / minimum of 31 square inches NVIC 01-87..
	When stowed, store with zipper open & approx. 1 inch up from the bottom stops
	Check all glue attachment points for adhesion (all glue deteriorates over time)
	It is recommend that suits over 10 year old receive an annual inflation test as per NVIC 01-08. If the condition of the suit is in question a Coast Guard examiner may require the owner to provide proof of the material condition of the suit.
	Inflation tube or collar attached & able to retain air
	Retro-reflective material in serviceable condition / minimum of 31 square inches.
	Excess PFD's should be both maintained and in serviceable condition, marked for "Training use only" or removed from vessel.

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### Voyage Termination Warning

Your vessels voyage can be terminated for any of the following:

- Failure to have the required type of immersion or exposure suit on board.
  - Insufficient number of the required serviceable immersion or exposure suits for the number of people on board the vessel.
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Consider purchasing one of the new hybrid PFDs in addition to the required immersion suits for each of the crew to wear while working on deck. See the PFD study conducted by Washington State University for recommendations.

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If you have elected to carry PFDs in addition to the required immersion or exposure suits use the [PFD checklist](#) to examine them.

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