

EMERGENCY FLOTATION EQUIPMENT

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Revised

1. **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this Aeronautical Recommended Practice is to establish criteria for installation which will ensure rapid and effective use of emergency flotation equipment in the event of ditching.
2. **DEFINITION:** This Aeronautical Recommended Practice deals with emergency flotation equipment items where required by the Civil Air Regulations and which passengers may be required to obtain and operate in a ditching situation. This involves individual life preservers and life rafts including accessory survival gear.

**NOTE:** It is not the purpose of this Aeronautical Recommended Practice to specify the design method or specific mechanism or equipment to be used in accomplishment of the objectives set forth herein.

3. **DETAIL RECOMMENDATIONS:** The following detail criteria are recommended:

3.1 **Life Preservers:**

- 3.1.1 The location of each preserver should be clearly indicated to the occupant when seated.
- 3.1.2 The installation should provide that the preserver can be readily removed from its stowed position by the occupant while in a seated position and with seat belt fastened.
- 3.1.3 Additional life preservers should be installed in conformity with Paragraph 3.1 for cabin occupants who may not be occupying their normal seats, i.e., seated in lounges, etc., where occupancy of such seats is approved for landing, take-off or emergency use.
- 3.1.4 The design of the stowage facility should avoid the possibility of access to the preserver becoming obstructed by miscellaneous passenger parcels or the possibility of confusion with other aircraft equipment, i.e., oxygen masks.
- 3.1.5 The time required to don the life preserver should not be significantly extended by virtue of secondary packaging arrangements, i.e., protective containers, seals, folding, etc.
- 3.1.6 Stowage facilities for inflatable types of life preservers should provide protection from damage from normal wear and tear, tampering and inadvertent puncturing.

3.2 **Life Rafts:**

- 3.2.1 Life rafts should be located in the immediate vicinity of the exit through which their launching is contemplated.