



**REPUBLIC OF  
THE MARSHALL ISLANDS**

**MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR**

**Marine Guideline**

**No. 2-11-20**

**May/2022**

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**TO: ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS AND OFFICERS OF MERCHANT SHIPS, AND RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS**

**SUBJECT: Guidance on Life Saving Appliances and Firefighting Systems for Private Yachts**

- Reference:**
- (a) **IMO Assembly Resolution [A.951\(23\)](#), *Improved Guidelines for Marine Portable Fire Extinguishers*, adopted 05 December 2003**
  - (b) **IMO Circular [MSC.1/Circ.1432](#), *Revised guidelines for the maintenance and inspection of fire protection systems and appliances*, issued 31 May 2021**
  - (c) **RMI Marine Notice [2-011-26](#), *Application for Service Extensions/Dispensations***
  - (d) **RMI Marine Notice [2-011-58](#), *Life Saving Appliances and Firefighting Systems for Private Yachts***

**PURPOSE**

This Marine Guideline provides recommendations on how private yachts may meet certain requirements for Life Saving Appliances (LSA) and firefighting systems.

**APPLICABILITY**

This Guideline is for private yachts required to comply with Republic of the Marshall Islands Maritime Administrator (the “Administrator”) Marine Notice (MN) [2-011-58](#). The recommendations are cross-referenced to the governing requirements and presented in the table below.

## GUIDANCE

### 1.0 Life Saving Appliances

MN 2-011-58 Requirement	Topic	MG 2-11-20 Citation	Guidance
§1.2.1	Unserviceable or Unavailable Equipment	§1.1	If equipment becomes unserviceable or unavailable, and if mitigating circumstances prevent the immediate rectification of the deficiency, the Administrator should be notified immediately to determine whether a service extension or dispensation is necessary. The application process provided in MN 2-011-26 should be followed.
§1.2.3	Stowing Survival Craft	§1.2	Survival craft should be stowed according to SOLAS Regulation III/13. Where is not practicable to comply with this regulation, the survival craft should be fitted “in a state of continuous readiness so that two crew members can carry out preparations for embarkation and launching in less than 5 minutes.”
§1.3	Means of Recovery of Persons from the Sea	§1.3	<p>To meet this requirement, the following should be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) a rescue boat of a SOLAS Approved Type that can be launched in a reasonable time frame, stowed on or towed by the main yacht. It may be any color but should be capable of displaying a highly visible color; or</li> <li>(b) a boat that is suitable for rescue purposes carried on board, but which is of a non-SOLAS Approved Type. In this case, the boat should have a capacity for not less than four persons, one of which should be assumed to be lying down. The boat may be a rigid, rigid-inflatable, or inflatable tender in any color, but should be capable of displaying a highly visible color. Tubes of non-SOLAS inflatable boats should have a minimum of three buoyancy compartments built in; or</li> <li>(c) the yacht, if it can be demonstrated that by virtue of the yacht’s manoeuvrability it can effectively act as the rescue boat itself. In this case, the marked area should be fully visible from the bridge wings or other areas where the yacht may be operated.</li> <li>(d) when a power-operated crane is provided as a launching device, it should be able to be operated by hand in the event of a power failure. A secondary power source (e.g., emergency generator power, battery, or hydraulic pump) is acceptable in lieu of emergency hand operation of the rescue boat crane.</li> </ul>

MN 2-011-58 Requirement	Topic	MG 2-11-20 Citation	Guidance			
§1.4.1	Emergency Packs for Life Rafts	§1.4	The life rafts should contain the appropriate SOLAS emergency pack, depending on the yacht's operating area.			
			<b>Operating Area from Safe Haven</b>		<b>Pack Required</b>	
			< 60 nautical miles		SOLAS Pack B	
			≥ 60 nautical miles		SOLAS Pack A	
§1.4.1	Life Raft Stowage	§1.5	The life rafts should be stowed in glass reinforced plastic containers for all yachts except those less than 18m in length, which may use valise-type containers.			
§1.4.1	Life Raft Launching	§1.6	Life rafts, other than davit-launched life rafts, should be capable of launching from their stowed location and, upon release, fall clear of any obstructions, superstructures, or hull with the vessel in an upright condition. Consideration should be given to mitigate the risk of life rafts being trapped into recessed side decks or other structural features when the yacht is in a heeled condition.			
§1.4.2	Davit-Launched Life Rafts	§1.7	Where the distance between the embarkation deck and the top of the life raft buoyancy tube exceeds 4.5 m when the yacht is in its lightest condition, davit launched life rafts should be provided with at least one launching appliance provided on each side of the yacht.			
§1.5.3	Life buoys in operations within 60 nautical miles from a Safe Haven	§1.8	Yachts operating within 60 nautical miles (NM) from a Safe Haven may use a SOLAS-approved marker strobe light instead of the light and smoke MOB signal.			
§1.6.1	Spare Lifejackets	§1.9	Spare lifejackets for adults, children, and infants, sufficient for at least 10% of the total number of persons on board should be provided.			
§1.7	Pyrotechnics Number and Type	§1.10	These types and numbers of pyrotechnics should be provided onboard:			
			< 60 NM from Safe Haven		≥ 60 NM from Safe Haven	
			Red Hand Flares		6	12
			Rocket Parachute Flares		4	6
			Smoke Signals		2	4

## 2.0 Fire Fighting Equipment and Systems

MN 2-011-58 Requirement	Topic	MG 2-11-20 Citation	Guidance
§2.4.3	Flexible Hoses of Fixed Gas Fire-extinguishing Systems	§2.1	In accordance with IMO Circular <a href="#">MSC.1/Circ.1432</a> , flexible hoses should be replaced at the intervals recommended by the manufacturer and not exceeding every 10 years.
§2.5.3	Recharging of Portable Fire Extinguishers	§2.2	Where recharged on board, all portable fire extinguishers should be provided with a visual indication of discharge. The manufacturer's instructions for recharging should be available onboard.
§2.5.4	Service and Inspection of Portable Fire Extinguishers	§2.3	Service and inspection should be undertaken by, or under the supervision of, a person with demonstrable competence, based upon the inspection guide (Table 9.1.3) contained in IMO Resolution <a href="#">A.951(23)</a> .
§2.5.5	Five-year Test Discharges of Portable Fire Extinguishers	§2.4	At least one extinguisher of each type manufactured in the same year and kept on board the yacht should be test discharged at five-year intervals.
§2.6	Fireman's Outfit Numbers	§2.5	For yachts of 24 meters or more in length, the Administrator recommends two fireman's outfits including an approved self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) with spare air cylinders for each outfit.
§2.7.2	Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus - Training for Crew Members	§2.6	Crewmembers should be appropriately trained by a recognized training facility for the correct and safe handling and use of SCBAs.