

## **Rescue and Survival Systems Update 2**

*1 February 2016*

Ref: (a) Rescue and Survival Systems Manual, COMDTINST M10470.10G.  
(b) BOAT Volume III, COMDTINST M16114.42 (series).

1. **Purpose:** To clarify a few Rescue and Survival Systems Program issues.

### **2. Speed rating**

a. Discussion. Some units are still inquiring about speed rating on Type III Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs). This is no longer a USCG/UL speed standard that is tested, and therefore is no longer a CG-731 requirement. When a PFD is CG approved, it goes through a UL testing approval process before a CG approval number is issued and the manufacturer is given a certificate. This certificate is good for a certain amount of time and needs to go through the formal process again only if that item has significant changes to its design or materials. Since the speed rating used to be tested and a company had gone through the process to have that particular PFD approved, their certificate is still authorized. That means that a company can still sell a PFD that has a speed rating on it because when they went through the process the speed rating was part of the test and CG approval number.

b. Action. Units don't need to take any action. If a PFD has a speed rating on it, it can continue to be used, but there is no longer a speed rating requirement.

### **3. Mustang MV1254**

a. Discussion. The MV1254 is one of the approved type III PFDs on Maintenance Procedure Card (MPC) KB0065.0. Reference (a) requires the type III PFDs be CG approved. Some of these PFDs utilized in the field don't have a CG approval number on the label. This was because the orange mesh was no longer UL approved but CG-731 still wanted that color to be used. When Mustang was no longer able to source an orange mesh from their subcontractors they switched to using black mesh which is UL approved. Now that Mustang uses this black mesh they are able to change their label and add the CG approval back on the PFD. Mustang is working towards updating the label, but they will deplete the stock on hand before the CG sees the change.

b. Action. Units can use the Mustang MV1254 even if it doesn't have a CG approval number on the label.

### **4. Ballistic goggles.**

a. Discussion. MPC KB0026.0 lists 2 types of goggles and they are both ballistic. The requirement for ballistic goggles to be worn by personnel manning MAW and shoulder-fired weapons in support of SZ enforcement or NCV pursuit activities comes from Reference (b). The reason the only authorized goggles to purchase are ballistic is to cut down cost when members transfer from a unit that doesn't require the use of ballistic goggles to a unit that does. There are a lot of units that don't support SZ enforcement or NCV pursuit activities.

b. Action. Units that don't support SZ enforcement or NCV pursuit activities can use non ballistic goggles if the goggles are already aboard the unit. This will not waste money and allows these goggles to be used until they are no longer serviceable. All new purchases of goggles are required to be ballistic in accordance with the MPC.

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