



# BUOYANT STORAGE DEVICES

This document describes a solution that the National Regulator considers may achieve the outcome required by the applicable standard, within the limits of the service category of the vessel on which the solution is implemented. It is not the only solution that may achieve the required outcome.

## Application

This equivalent solution applies to the use of buoyant watertight containers:

- for stowage of safety equipment including pyrotechnic and smoke signals; and
- as a buoyant appliance

Note: For the purpose of this GES a 'buoyant storage device' is a storage container that is suitable for the stowage of safety equipment and which, through testing, has been shown to meet the additional criteria designated for buoyant appliances, in accordance with chapter 4.7 NSCV section C7A.

This generic equivalent solution is available for vessels that are required to carry buoyance appliances, pyrotechnics and/or smoke signals in accordance with NSCV section C7A chapter 5.3.

## Current Requirement

NSCV Part C Subsection 7A states:

### 2.2 TYPE AND QUANTITY

A vessel must be provided with safety equipment of type and quantity appropriate to control to acceptable levels the risks associated with the operation of the vessel, taking into account its area of operation and the number of persons on board as well as other risk factors that might be relevant.

### 2.3 PERFORMANCE OF SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Safety equipment must be designed, constructed and arranged to function so as to significantly enhance the probability of survival in the event of an incident.

### 2.4 AVAILABILITY

Safety equipment must be located, and storage space clearly marked, so as to be readily available for its purpose in the event of an incident.

### 2.5 EFFECTIVENESS AND RELIABILITY OF SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Safety equipment must be designed, constructed, arranged and maintained so as to function effectively and reliably at time of need over the life of the vessel.

### 2.7 PERFORMANCE OF THE ARRANGEMENT FOR DEPLOYING AND BOARDING SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Safety equipment must be installed and arranged to facilitate its operation and deployment in a safe and timely manner during emergency conditions, by day or by night.

### 2.8 RELIABILITY OF THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR DEPLOYING AND BOARDING SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Arrangements for deploying and boarding safety equipment must be designed, constructed and maintained so as to function reliably and safely during emergency conditions at all times.

### 2.11 IDENTIFICATION

Measures must be provided to facilitate rapid identification of the parent vessel to which safety equipment was fitted should an incident occur.

### 2.12 EVACUATION

Arrangements must be provided to enable rapid evacuation of the vessel by all persons on the vessel at all times for the range of environmental conditions likely to be encountered.

## Buoyant watertight containers as buoyant appliances (safety equipment to be carried)

### 2.18 MEANS TO SUSTAIN AND PROLONG LIFE OF EVACUEES

Survival equipment must be arranged and equipped to protect the health and safety of evacuees in the event that rescue is delayed.

### Deemed to satisfy solution

The applicable deemed to satisfy solutions for compliance with these requirements for the purposes of a buoyant watertight container and for the purpose of a buoyant appliance are listed in NSCV section C7A Chapter 4.10 and Annex F.

### Equivalent Solution

The National Regulator considers a 'buoyant storage device' to be at least as effective in meeting the required outcomes listed above, as the deemed to satisfy solutions set out in Chapter 4.10 and Annex F of NSCV section C7A, if it meets the conditions outlined below:

1. The 'buoyant storage device' must be assessed and verified as meeting the criteria specified in (2) by:
  - a recognised testing and listing organisation in Australia;
  - a JAS-ANZ accredited product certification body; or
  - a recognised organisation.
2. The device must be assessed against the criteria specified for a buoyant appliance in NSCV section C7A Annex F.
  - For the purpose of determining capacity in accordance with Annex F – F 2.7, the calculation must be undertaken assuming that any floodable parts of the device, including those parts that may not normally flood whilst the device is closed, are totally flooded.
3. The buoyant storage device must:
  - be clearly and permanently marked as to its contents;
  - fitted with a handle or lanyard;
  - be mounted in a float free position and be readily accessible.