



SURVIVAL EQUIPMENT FOR USE IN OVERWATER OPERATIONS

SECTION 1 GENERAL

1.1 PURPOSE

This advisory circular provides information regarding the survival items that should be carried during aircraft extended overwater operations.

1.2 STATUS OF THIS ADVISORY CIRCULAR

This AC is an original issuance.

1.3 BACKGROUND

- A. While the occurrences of ditchings in which aircraft occupants depend on overwater equipment for survival are rare, the possibility does exist.
- B. Therefore, information about the items which should be included in overwater equipment is important and is provided here.

1.4 APPLICABILITY

This advisory circular is applicable to the operators and flight crews of all Ghana-registered aircraft and all aircraft operated by holders of AOC issued by the GCAA.

1.5 RELATED DIRECTIVES

The following directives are directly applicable to the guidance contained in this advisory circular—

- GCADs Part 7, Instruments & Equipment
- GCADs Part 09, Operations of Aircraft

1.6 RELATED READING MATERIAL

- A. Ghana Civil Aviation Authority(GCAA)
 - Ghana Civil Aviation Directives Parts 6 and 08

This advisory circular and copies of these directives may be obtained from the GCAA Safety Regulation Department.

- Advisory Circulars are intended to provide advice and guidance to illustrate a means, but not necessarily the only means, of complying with the directives, or to explain certain regulatory requirements by providing informative, interpretative and explanatory material.
- Where a directive contains the words “prescribed by the Authority,” the AC may consider to “prescribe” a viable method of compliance, but status of that “prescription” is always “guidance” (never a directive).

- B. United States Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
- Technical Standards Orders (TSO) C13e, C69a, C70a, C85, and C91a.

These Technical Standards Orders can be obtained through the Internet by selecting faa.gov and searching for the individual TSO numbers.

1.7 DEFINITIONS

- A. For purposes of this advisory circular, these terms are defined as follows—
- [Reserved].
- B. The following acronyms and abbreviations are used in this advisory circular—
- 1) **AC** – Advisory Circular
 - 2) **GCAA** – Ghana Civil Aviation Authority
 - 3) **GCADs** – Ghana Civil Aviation Directives
 - 4) **TSO** – Technical Standard Order

SECTION 2 SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

This equipment includes, but is not limited to, the following—

2.1 PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE

Life preserver for each occupant of the aircraft.

- A survivor locator light
- Signaling mirror

2.2 LIFE RAFTS

- A. Rafts or slide/rafts with appropriate buoyancy and sufficient capacity for everyone on board the aircraft and which have a boarding station.
- B. Rafts (and slide/rafts where appropriate) should be equipped with the following—
- 1) Lines, including an inflation/mooring line with a snaphook, rescue or life line, and a heaving or trailing line.
 - 2) Sea anchors.
 - 3) Raft repair equipment such as repair clamps, rubber plugs, and leak stoppers.
 - 4) Inflation devices, including hand pumps and cylinders (that is, carbon dioxide bottles), for emergency inflation.
 - 5) Safety/inflation relief valves.
 - 6) Canopy and appropriate equipment to erect the canopy.
 - 7) Position lights.
 - 8) Hook type knife, sheathed and secured by a retaining line.
 - 9) Placards that give the location of raft equipment and are consistent with placard requirements.
 - 10) Propelling devices such as oars, or in smaller rafts, glove paddles.
 - 11) Water catchment devices, including bailing buckets, reincatchment equipment, cups, and sponges.

- 12) A 2-day supply of emergency food rations supplying at least 1,000 calories a day for each person.
- 13) One saltwater desalting kit for each two persons the raft is rated to carry or two pints of water for each person the raft is rated to carry.
- 14) One magnetic compass.
- 15) Radar reflector.

2.3 SURVIVAL KIT

A survival kit, appropriately equipped. Some of the items which could be included in the survival kit are—

- 1) One book on survival, appropriate for any area.
- 2) One fishing kit.
- 3) Triangular cloths.
- 4) Bandages.
- 5) Eye ointments.
- 6) Water disinfection tablets.
- 7) Sun protection balsam.
- 8) Heat retention foils.
- 9) Burning glass.
- 10) Seasickness tablets.
- 11) Ammonia inhalants.
- 12) Packets with plaster.

2.4 SIGNALLING DEVICES

Signaling devices including—:

- 1) A survivor locator light
- 2) At least one approved pyrotechnic signaling device.
- 3) One signaling mirror.
- 4) One spotlight or flashlight (including a spare bulb) having at least two "D" cell batteries or equivalent.
- 5) One police whistle.
- 6) One dye marker.

2.5 SURVIVAL EMERGENCY LOCATOR BEACONS

- A. Radio beacon with water activated battery.
- B. At least two survival Emergency Locator Transmitters (ELT(S)) capable of transmitting on the distress frequencies.

The standards of performance for these ELTs are prescribed in ICAO Annex 10, Volume V, Chapter 2.

2.6 FIRST AID & MEDICAL KITS

Crew procedures should include position-specific responsibility for ensuring that at least one first-aid kit and, if applicable, the medical kit are carried into the life raft.

The contents of these kits are prescribed in AC 06-003, On-Board Medical Supplies.

End of Advisory Circular