



# LIFEBUOY EQUIPMENT

## Lifebuoy Inspection Routine

### Periodic Inspection Routine

The frequency of inspection is to be determined by the body responsible for the equipment and its upkeep, and may vary depending on legislation, location, and vulnerability to environmental factors, vandalism, and theft. The inspection results should be monitored over a period to gauge if the inspection period is sufficient to maintain adequate cover. In some cases the frequency of inspection may vary seasonally. There must be an inspection after any equipment has been used for practice, rescue, or maliciously. All inspections and their results should be accurately recorded.

All items should present a clean and neat appearance and all signage should be clear and understandable. Such presentation instills pride and confidence, whereas poor presentation may encourage further neglect and possible vandalism and theft.

#### Lifebuoys

1. Ensure that the lifebuoy is in situ and that it is securely mounted, but accessible and easily removed for use
2. Visually inspect the lifebuoy for damage or deterioration
3. Filled polyethylene lifebuoys are often sealed with a 'plug' (sometimes hidden beneath the retro-reflective tape). Ensure that the plug is in situ and that there has been no water ingress. This may be checked by comparing the actual and designed weight of the lifebuoy
4. Ensure that the retro-reflective tape (if fitted) is clean and securely attached. If it is scuffed, defaced or becoming detached it should be replaced
5. Ensure that the grabline around the circumference is not damaged, frayed, or been subject to solar degradation. It should be securely attached to the lifebuoy at four equidistant points. Where the grabline terminates in a knot this should be secure to prevent the it from becoming detached

#### Housings

1. Ensure that the housing is securely attached to its supporting structure (post, wall, rails, etc) and that the supporting structure is adequate and stable Where the support has a protective coating (e.g. galvanised or plasticised, etc) ensure that this is not cracked or otherwise damaged
2. Visually inspect the housing for signs of damage or deterioration
3. Ensure that door hinges or other connections are in good order and functioning correctly
4. Ensure that any door or closure securing mechanism is in good order and operates freely
5. At the end of any inspection make certain that any anti-tamper indicator is in situ

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#### Rescue Lines

##### Loose Lines

1. Ensure that the line is securely attached to the lifebuoy
2. Visually inspect the line ensuring that it is not damaged, cut, frayed compacted or hardened, nor been subject to deterioration due to incorrect stowage, contamination or solar degradation
3. Ensure that the line is neatly stowed, not tangled and available for immediate deployment
4. If the line is exposed it is recommended that it be changed at intervals not exceeding three years

##### Encapsulated Lines

1. Ensure that the line is securely attached to the lifebuoy
2. Inspect the line container for damage and check that the foam pad at the top is in situ and not protruding beyond the retaining rim
3. Ensure that the instruction label is not defaced or otherwise illegible
4. Visually inspect any exposed line for damage as described above
5. It is recommended that the line be replaced at intervals not exceeding five years

#### Lights

Lights attached to lifebuoys should be inspected, tested and maintained in accord with the manufacturers instructions.

#### Instructions & Signs

Instructions, signs and warning notices should, where applicable, conform to a recognised form and standard. They should be in an appropriate language(s), clearly understood and convey correct information. Signs that are in need of repair or have poor legibility or clarity of image should be replaced and all others should be subject to programmed replacement. In illuminated areas they should be so placed as to be clearly visible during hours of darkness.

#### Inspection Records

A maintenance report should be completed with every inspection and should include the following:

- Date of inspection
- Name of person conducting the inspection
- Location of the equipment
- Inspection frequency
- Type of equipment
- Condition of equipment
- Remedial action required
- Further action required
- Any recommendations in relation to the equipment or inspection procedure



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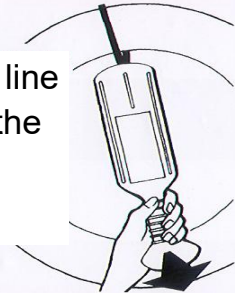
### Instructions for the use of the lifebuoy and encapsulated rescue line

As provided with lifebuoy housings type TS4, TS7, SOS4, and SOS7

- Remove the housing cover (if fitted) by lifting upwards and pulling out
- Remove the lifebuoy and the encapsulated line suspended in its internal diameter, by lifting it over the retaining horns
- Remove the line holder from the lifebuoy
- Grasp the neck of the line holder firmly in one hand
- With the other hand swing and throw the lifebuoy towards the casualty
- When the casualty has hold of the

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

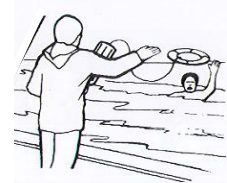
1. Remove the line holder from the lifebuoy



2. Grasp the line holder firmly in one hand



3. Swing and throw the lifebuoy with the other hand



For a 22"/24" lifebuoy the holder normally contains 20m of buoyant line

For a 30" lifebuoy the holder normally contains 30m of buoyant line