



## Liferaft capacity 75 and 82.5 kg weight regulation



# IMO increases weight of liferaft occupants

*IMO has changed the weight limit per person from 75 kg per person to 82.5 kg due to a general increase in the average weight per person worldwide. As of January 1, 2012 liferafts must be based on the new weight limitations as described in MSC rule (MSC 295(87)).*

This means:

### **Vessels built on or after January 1, 2012**

All vessels having their keel laid on or after January 1, 2012 must carry liferafts based on an assumed occupant weight of 82.5 kg. The safe working load (SWL) of liferaft launching appliances must match the new weight regulations.

### **Vessels built before January 1, 2012**

All ships constructed before January 1, 2012 may continue to use liferafts approved on an assumed occupant weight of 75 kg. Liferafts approved to 75 kg onboard these vessels may be exchanged with 82.5 kg liferafts during service. It is also fully acceptable to have both 75 kg and 82.5 kg liferafts on board at the same time.

### **Special rules for cargo ships built before January 1, 2012**

The SWL of the liferaft launching appliances must be based on the assumed weight times the number of persons for which the liferaft is approved. If it is exceeded the davit must be reapproved, modified or replaced to achieve the required SWL. Please contact the flag administration and your davit supplier for guidance.

### **Special rules for passenger ships built before January 1, 2012**

The SWL of the liferaft launching appliances and subsequent lowering tests may continue to be based on an assumed occupant weight of 75kg, even though any of the associated liferats have been tested to the new weight regulation of 82.5 kg.

### **VIKING liferafts are approved to both 75 kg and 82.5 kg**

All VIKING liferafts manufactured after January 1, 2012 comply with the new rules and will therefore be marked with a label stating that the liferaft is approved according to both LSA (75 kg) and MSC 295 (82.5 kg).

VIKING liferafts manufactured between February 16, 1999 and January 1, 2012, and are wheel marked, can be upgraded to comply with the 82.5 kg rule at the next VIKING service through additional load tests. A new 82.5 kg certificate will then be issued.

VIKING liferafts used in VIKING's Exchange concept are approved to cover both 75 kg and 82.5 kg requirements.

Please see the enclosed statement by DNV which confirms the above.

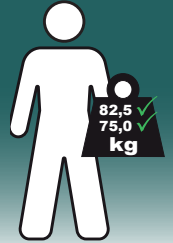
If any doubt, please contact the flag administration and your davit supplier for vessel specific guidance.

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# Liferaft capacity

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DET NORSKE VERITAS


TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Manufacturer: Viking Life-Saving Equipment A/S  
Sædding Ringvej, DK 6710 Esbjerg, Denmark

Product: Inflatable Life Rafts type DKFS, DKFS+, DKS, DKS+, DK+,  
DKF+ & DKF+GN

This to confirm that above-mentioned life rafts are approved according to both the LSA-code, person weight 75 kg and MSC 295(87), person weight 82.5 kg.

Fredericia, Denmark, 2012-05-11

  
Kristian Lindelof  
Senior Surveyor



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**safety**  
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