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2nd August 2016

Dear Consultee,

CONSULTATION – Inflatable Non-SOLAS LSA

DRAFT - MGN 553 (M+F) - Life-Saving Appliances - Inflatable Non SOLAS Liferrafts, Lifejackets, Marine Evacuation Systems, Danbuoys and Lifebuoys - Technical Standards and Servicing Requirements

This consultation is for a new Marine Guidance Note (MGN) that replaces the Marine Guidance Note, MGN 499. This Marine Guidance Note provides guidance on the MCA policy with regards to the acceptable standards of Non-SOLAS inflatable Life-Saving Appliances (LSA) for use on certain UK registered commercial vessels. It also sets the process for servicing requirements for such LSA that should be regularly serviced at a service station in accordance with instructions from the original equipment manufacturer (OEM).

Feedback is specifically requested in response to the questions outlined in the associated Business Impact Target questionnaire.

The closing date for this consultation is Tuesday the 30th of August. Responses to consultations should be sent to consultationsdmss@mcga.gov.uk and clearly labelled as "Consultation – Inflatable non-SOLAS Life-Saving Appliances".

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be published or disclosed in accordance with the access to information regimes (these are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004).

If you would like the information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, under the FOIA, there is a statutory Code of Practice with which public authorities must comply and which deals, amongst other things, with obligations of confidence. In view of this it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Department.

The Department will process your personal data in accordance with the DPA and in the majority of circumstances, this will mean that your personal data will not be disclosed to third parties.

This consultation has been conducted in accordance with the [Cabinet Office - Consultation principles: guidance](#).

If you have any comments regarding the conduct of this consultation please contact the Consultation Co-ordinator at consultation.coordinator@mcga.gov.uk. We are continually trying to improve the way in which we conduct consultations and appreciate your views, so we would also be grateful if you could complete and return the attached feedback form. These should be submitted to the Consultation Co-ordinator and are not affected by the deadline for this consultation.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Nico Ramos

Policy Lead: Life-Saving Appliances
Marine Technology Branch