

POLICE BOAT CODE A

**A Code of Practice for the Construction, Machinery, and
Equipment of Sea-Going Police Launches Operating up
to 60 Miles from a Safe Haven.**

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1. Title and date of commencement.

- 1.1 This Code is called “A Code of Practice for the Construction, Machinery and Equipment of Sea-Going Police Launches Operating up to 60 Miles from a Safe Haven”.
- 1.2 This Code may be identified as ‘Police Boat Code A’.
- 1.3 This Code shall apply together with the Police Boat Common Code from the date of commencement.

2. Application.

- 2.1 This Code applies to police launches that operate up to 60 miles to sea from a safe haven.

3. Construction.

- 3.1 Launches shall have permanent sheltered accommodation with ready access to the weather deck for the use of the crew and all other persons carried during normal service.

4. Machinery.

- 4.1 Police launches subject to this Code shall be fitted with twin diesel engines each with mechanical, electrical or hand starting facilities.
- 4.2 Where electrical starting facilities are provided, each engine shall have its own independent battery with change over switches to allow either engine to be started by either battery. Charging facilities shall be available for all batteries.
- 4.3 There shall be a separate fuel source provided for each engine. This can be achieved by installing two separate fuel tanks or by division of the main tank internally.

5. Man-overboard/rescue equipment.

- 5.1 Where the freeboard does not allow ready and easy access to the waterline to facilitate the ready recovery of a person from the water by members of the crew, the vessel shall be fitted with;
- .1 transom steps and/or a stern ladder or means of secure attachment of a side ladder or scrambling net; and
 - .2 a constructional or mechanical arrangement for the retrieval of any person who falls overboard or an inflatable tender stowed in a such a manner so as to be readily launched. The efficiency of this equipment should be proven by practical testing. Where practicable the arrangement should enable a person to be retrieved in the horizontal position in order to reduce the risk of heart failure if suffering from hypothermia. Where an inflatable tender is provided it should be maintained in accordance with section 6 below.

6. Tenders (Dinghies).

- 6.1 An inflatable tender which forms part of the equipment carried by a launch certified under this Code is not required to meet the requirements provided in Police Boat Code D.
- 6.2 A tender should be clearly marked with the maximum number of people of mass 100kg which it may carry, and with the name of the parent vessel.
- 6.3 An inflatable tender should be fit for the purpose of its intended use, and should be regularly inspected by a competent person appointed by the Police Officer in charge of the Police Marine/Diving Unit. It should be maintained and kept in a safe condition.