

	<p style="text-align: center;">GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DEPARTMENT OF MARINE SERVICES AND MERCHANT SHIPPING (ADOMS)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Circular 02-002-07</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Personal life-saving appliances (LSA)</p>	Document	Circ. 02-002-07
		Revision	04
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		Reference	SOLAS III/32.3 Immersion Suits MSC 216 (82)

Circular letter to:

all companies having registered their ships under the flag of Antigua and Barbuda W.I.;
all masters and officers employed on ships registered under the A&B flag.

The A&B Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping (ADOMS) wish to draw the attention of companies, masters and officers to the newly **modified requirement of immersion suits which entered into force 1 July 2008.**

1. The new amended paragraph 3 of Regulation 32 applies to all cargo ships. Cargo ships constructed before 1 July 2006 shall be in compliance not later than the first safety equipment survey on or after 1 July 2008.
2. **An immersion suit** complying with the requirements of the Code shall be provided **for every person on board** the ship.
3. In view of the new paragraph 32.3.3 which says "...if a ship has any watch or work stations which are located remotely from the place or places where immersion suits are normally stowed, including remotely located survival craft carried in accordance with reg. 31.1.4, additional immersion suits of an appropriate size shall be provided at these locations for the number of persons normally on watch or working at those locations at any time."
4. For ships flying the flag of A&B and which are constructed in such way that bridge, living rooms, engine room with engine controls and the stowage of immersion suits are placed together in one superstructure, and which have no watch or work station located remotely from the normal place of stowage for immersion suits no additional immersion suits are required according to paragraph 32.3.2.
5. For all ships the following arrangements for remotely located survival craft will apply:

Liferafts, if located at aft/forward end of the ship and at a distance more than 100 m from the closest survival craft, as required by re. III/31.1.4, shall be regarded as "remotely located survival craft" with regard to reg. III/7.2.1.2.

The area where these remotely located survival crafts are stowed shall be provided with a minimum number of **2 lifejackets and 2 immersion suits.**

6. Immersion suits shall be stowed for ready use:
 - on deck near the emergency assembly station
 - in the crew member's cabin
 - in an always accessible separate stow room.

7. These immersion suits need not be required if the ship is constantly engaged on voyages in warm climates where immersion suits are unnecessary. Guidelines for assessment of thermal protection/warm climates are laid down in MSC/Circ. 1046.

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