Coast Guard, DHS

§ 164.019–7 Non-standard components; acceptance criteria and procedures.

(a) General. Non-standard components may be used in the construction of PFDs only if they have been accepted by the Coast Guard in accordance with the requirements of this section.

(b) Use Codes. Each non-standard component is assigned a Use Code as indicated in table 164.019–3. Additional Use Codes may be assigned by the Commandant.

(c) Request for acceptance. The component manufacturer or the recognized laboratory that performs the acceptance testing required by the applicable subpart of this part or part 160 of this chapter must submit, in writing, to the Commandant, a request for acceptance of any non-standard component. The request must include the information, supporting documentation, and samples required by this section.

(1) The request must include a statement of the intended use of the component by the PFD manufacturer, and the Use Code(s) for which acceptance is requested. Intended uses must be for one or more of the following—

(i) Outer Envelope Fabric (exterior fabrics on wearable PFDs);

(ii) Cover Fabric (for throwable PFDs);

(iii) Inner Envelope Fabric;

(iv) Closure (including zippers) or Adjustment Hardware;

(v) Body Strap;

(vi) Grab Strap (applies to buoyant cushions only);

(vii) Tie Tape;

(viii) Reinforcing Tape;

(ix) Thread;

(x) Flotation Foam; or

(xi) Other (specify).

(2) The request must include a statement identifying the component in detail and including the unique style, part, or model number, the identification data required by the applicable subpart of this part, and any other manufacturer’s identifying data. No two components which differ in any way, e.g., size, material composition, construction, may utilize the same identification number.

(3) The report of a recognized laboratory’s test data in accordance with the “acceptance tests” required by the applicable subpart of this part or part 160 must be submitted with the request. Each report must include the name of the laboratory and a description of the test equipment and test methods used, and must be signed and dated by an authorized laboratory official.

(4) A sample of each component that is being considered must be submitted with the request. Where the lightest and darkest colors are being tested, samples of both colors must be submitted. A one linear yard sample is required in the case of textiles.

(5) The request must include a list of all materials used in the construction of the particular component. The list must contain specific identification and quantity of all materials used.

(6) For hardware and other mechanical components, the request must include scaled drawings showing details and dimensions of the mechanism.

(7) A statement of dimensional and performance tolerances, as appropriate, that will be maintained in production must be submitted with request.

(8) The request must include a description of the quality control procedures that will be in effect during production.

(9) The request must include a detailed description of the recognized laboratory’s procedures for oversight of the manufacturer’s program of production quality control, including a description of the laboratory’s certification marking(s).

(10) The request must include any appropriate installation or use guidelines for the component.

(d) Documentation of acceptance. When an acceptance is granted, the Commandant provides written notice to the applicant.

(e) Alternate requirements. A component that does not meet the requirements of this subchapter is eligible for acceptance if it—
§ 164.019–9 Procedure for acceptance of revisions of design, process, or materials.

(a) The manufacturer shall not change the design, material, manufacturing process, or construction of a non-standard component unless it has been previously approved by the Commandant, in accordance with paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) The manufacturer or the recognized laboratory that performs the acceptance testing required by the applicable subpart of this part or part 160 of this chapter shall submit requests for acceptance of revisions in design, material, manufacturing process, or construction of a non-standard component in writing and describe the revision in detail similar to the original request for acceptance.

§ 164.019–11 Certification (affidavits).

General. Affidavits required by §164.019–5(c) must be notarized, and certify that a component complies in all respects with the material and construction requirements of a subpart of this part or part 160 of this chapter. Each affidavit must contain the following information:

(a) Name and address of company.

(b) Name and title of signing company official.

(c) Description of the component by use of the unique style, part, or model number and other applicable distinctive characteristics such as weight, size, denier, treatments or coatings, etc.

(d) Production data (to include lot, batch number, and quantity shipped) in sufficient detail to enable the manufacturer or purchaser to trace a shipment of components back to the lots of raw materials used in its manufacture.

(e) The intended use of the component, from the list in §164.019–7(c)(1).

(f) The PFD Type(s) for which the component is a standard component, as determined by—

1) The standard material component requirements of part 160 of this chapter with which the component complies; or

2) The Use Code(s) of the component.

(g) A statement indicating the specific provision(s) of this subchapter with which the component complies.

(h) A copy of the records of all required production tests performed on the component lots that are covered by the affidavit.

§ 164.019–13 Production quality control requirements.

(a) General. Each component manufacturer shall establish procedures for maintaining quality control of the materials used in production, manufacturing operations, and the finished product.

(b) Recognized laboratory oversight. Each manufacturer of non-standard components shall supplement its procedures for assuring production quality control with a program of oversight by a recognized laboratory, as described in the oversight procedures submitted to the Coast Guard in accordance with §164.019–7(c)(9). The laboratory’s oversight program must be performed at the place of manufacture unless alternate procedures have been accepted by the Commandant.

(c) Production tests and inspections. Production tests and inspections must be conducted in accordance with this section and subpart 159.007 of this chapter.

(d) Responsibilities; component manufacturers. Each component manufacturer shall—

1) Perform all production tests and inspections required by the applicable subpart of this part;