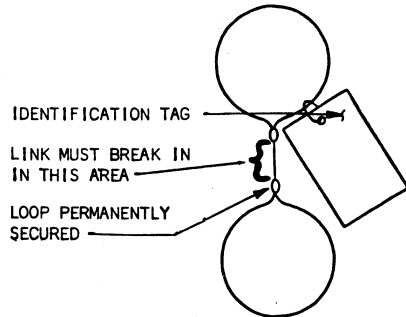


**§ 160.073-15**

buoyant apparatus of 21 persons and more capacity.



**§ 160.073-15 Tests.**

(a) The manufacturer shall perform a tensile test on the first three links made from a particular spool of wire. The test must be done by slowly loading the link until it breaks. The link must break between the limits specified in §160.073-10(b). The break must occur in the length of wire at or between the points where the loops are secured (see Figure 160.073-10).

(b) If each of the three links passes the test, each link constructed in the same manner from the same spool of wire may be certified by the manufacturer as meeting the requirements of this subpart.

(c) If one or more of the three links fails the test, no link manufactured in the same manner and from the same spool of wire as the test links may be certified as meeting the requirements of this subpart.

**§ 160.073-20 Marking.**

(a) Each link certified by the manufacturer to meet the requirements of this subpart must have a corrosion resistant, waterproof tag attached to it that has the following information on it (the manufacturer must make the appropriate entries in the indicated space):

FLOAT-FREE LINK FOR LIFE FLOATS  
AND BUOYANT APPARATUS  
Of (10 or less) (11 to 20) (21 or more) persons capacity.  
Normal breaking strength  
Meets U.S. coast guard  
Requirements—46 CFR 160.073.

**46 CFR Ch. I (10-1-14 Edition)**

Made by: (name and address)

(Date) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) [Reserved]

**Subpart 160.076—Inflatable Recreational Personal Flotation Devices**

SOURCE: CGD 94-110, 60 FR 32848, June 23, 1995, unless otherwise noted.

**§ 160.076-1 Scope.**

(a) This subpart contains structural and performance standards for approval of inflatable recreational personal flotation devices (PFDs), as well as requirements for production follow-up inspections, associated manuals, information pamphlets, and markings.

(b) Inflatable PFDs approved under this subpart rely entirely upon inflation for buoyancy.

[CGD 94-110, 60 FR 32848, June 23, 1995, as amended by USCG-2011-0076, 77 FR 19942, Apr. 3, 2012]

**§ 160.076-3 Applicability.**

Inflatable PFDs approved under this subpart may be used to meet the carriage requirements of 33 CFR 175.15 and 175.17 on the following types of vessels only:

- (a) Recreational vessels.
- (b) Uninspected recreational submersible vessels.

**§ 160.076-5 Definitions.**

As used in this part:

*Commandant* means the Chief of the Lifesaving and Fire Safety Standards Division. Address: Commandant (CG-ENG-4), Attn: Lifesaving and Fire Safety Division, U.S. Coast Guard Stop 7509, 2703 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20593-7509; telephone 202-372-1392 or fax 202-372-1924.

*Conditional approval* means a category of PFD which has condition(s) on its approval with which the user must comply in order for the PFD to be counted toward meeting the carriage requirements of the vessel being used. All conditionally approved PFDs are designated Approval Type V.

*First quality workmanship* means construction which is free from any defect