



**SURVIVAL EQUIPMENT FOR USE IN  
OVERWATER OPERATIONS**

**Purpose**— This advisory circular provides information regarding the survival items that should be carried during aircraft extended overwater operations.

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**SECTION 1 GENERAL**

**1.1 STATUS OF THIS ADVISORY CIRCULAR**

This is an original issuance [1]2017 of this AC.

**1.2 BACKGROUND**

- A. While the occurrences of ditchings in which aircraft occupants depend on overwater equipment for survival are rare, the possibility does exist.
- B. Therefore, information about the items which should be included in overwater equipment is important and is provided here.

- Advisory Circulars are intended to provide advice and guidance to illustrate a means, but not necessarily the only means, of complying with the Regulations, or to explain certain regulatory requirements by providing informative, interpretative and explanatory material.
- Where an AC is referred to in a 'Note' below the regulation, the AC remains as guidance material,
- ACs should always be read in conjunction with the referenced regulations.

### 1.3 APPLICABILITY

This advisory circular is applicable to the operators and flight crews of all Rwanda-registered aircraft and all aircraft operated by holders of AOC issued by the RCAA.

### 1.4 RELATED REGULATIONS

The following regulations are directly applicable to the guidance contained in this advisory circular—

- RCAR Part 6, Instruments & Equipment
- RCAR Part 10, Operations of Aircraft

### 1.5 RELATED READING MATERIAL

A. Rwanda Civil Aviation authority (RCAA)

- Rwanda Aviation Regulation 6 and 10

This advisory circular and copies of these regulations may be obtained from the RCAA Flight Safety Services.

B. United States Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

- Technical Standards Orders (TSO) C13e, C69a, C70a, C85, and C91a.

These Technical Standards Orders can be obtained through the Internet by selecting [faa.gov](http://faa.gov) and searching for the individual TSO numbers..

### 1.6 DEFINITIONS

A. For purposes of this advisory circular, these terms are defined as follows—

- [Reserved].

B. The following acronyms and abbreviations are used in this advisory circular—

- 1) **AC** – Advisory Circular
- 2) **RCAA** – Rwanda Civil Aviation authority
- 3) **RCAR** – Rwanda Civil Aviation Regulations
- 4) **TSO** – Technical Standard Order

## SECTION 2 SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

This equipment includes, but is not limited to, the following—

### 2.1 PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE

Life preserver for each occupant of the aircraft.

- A survivor locator light
- Signalling mirror

### 2.2 LIFE RAFTS

A. Rafts or slide/rafts with appropriate buoyancy and sufficient capacity for everyone on board the aircraft and which have a boarding station.

B. Rafts (and slide/rafts where appropriate) should be equipped with the following—

- 1) Lines, including an inflation/mooring line with a snaphook, rescue or life line, and a heaving or trailing line.

- 2) Sea anchors.
- 3) Raft repair equipment such as repair clamps, rubber plugs, and leak stoppers.
- 4) Inflation devices, including hand pumps and cylinders (that is, carbon dioxide bottles), for emergency inflation.
- 5) Safety/inflation relief valves.
- 6) Canopy and appropriate equipment to erect the canopy.
- 7) Position lights.
- 8) Hook type knife, sheathed and secured by a retaining line.
- 9) Placards that give the location of raft equipment and are consistent with placard requirements.
- 10) Propelling devices such as oars, or in smaller rafts, glove paddles.
- 11) Water catchment devices, including bailing buckets, reincatchment equipment, cups, and sponges.
- 12) A 2-day supply of emergency food rations supplying at least 1,000 calories a day for each person.
- 13) One saltwater desalting kit for each two persons the raft is rated to carry or two pints of water for each person the raft is rated to carry.
- 14) One magnetic compass.
- 15) Radar reflector.

### **2.3 SURVIVAL KIT**

A survival kit, appropriately equipped. Some of the items which could be included in the survival kit are—

- 1) One book on survival, appropriate for any area.
- 2) One fishing kit.
- 3) Triangular cloths.
- 4) Bandages.
- 5) Eye ointments.
- 6) Water disinfection tablets.
- 7) Sun protection balsam.
- 8) Heat retention foils.
- 9) Burning glass.
- 10) Seasickness tablets.
- 11) Ammonia inhalants.
- 12) Packets with plaster.

### **2.4 SIGNALLING DEVICES**

Signaling devices including—:

- 1) A survivor locator light

- 2) At least one approved pyrotechnic signaling device.
- 3) One signaling mirror.
- 4) One spotlight or flashlight (including a spare bulb) having at least two "D" cell batteries or equivalent.
- 5) One police whistle.
- 6) One dye marker.

## 2.5 SURVIVAL EMERGENCY LOCATOR BEACONS

- A. Radio beacon with water activated battery.
- B. At least two survival Emergency Locator Transmitters (ELT(S)) capable of transmitting on the distress frequencies.

The standards of performance for these ELTs are prescribed in ICAO Annex 10, Volume V, Chapter 2.

## 2.6 FIRST AID & MEDICAL KITS

Crew procedures should include position-specific responsibility for ensuring that at least one first-aid kit and, if applicable, the medical kit are carried into the life raft.

The contents of these kits are prescribed in AC 06-003, On-Board Medical Supplies.

*End of Advisory Circular*

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