



REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
**Ministry of the Sea, Transport
and Infrastructure**
Maritime Safety Directorate



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Title: Requirements for the maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of lifeboats and rescue boats, launching appliances and release gear

Effective as of: 1 July 2020

**Reference: IMO Resolution MSC.404(96) - AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974, AS AMENDED, Ch. III - Life-saving appliances and arrangements
IMO Resolution MSC.402(96) - Requirements for Maintenance, Thorough Examination, Operational Testing, Overhaul and Repair of Lifeboats and Rescue Boats, Launching Appliances and Release Gear
Rules for statutory certification of sea-going ships, Annex 3 – Approval of service suppliers (Off. Gazette No. 15/2019)
Rules for statutory certification of sea-going ships, General requirements, Annex 5 – Surveys of Ships in Service (Off. Gazette No. 15/2019)**

Application: Service suppliers, Ship owners, Ship managers, Recognized classification societies

IMO Resolution MSC.404(96) amended SOLAS, Reg. III/3 and Reg. III/20 with regard to operational readiness, maintenance and inspections, in order to mandate operational requirements adopted by IMO Res. MSC.402(96) - Requirements for Maintenance, Thorough Examination, Operational Testing, Overhaul and Repair of Lifeboats and Rescue Boats, Launching Appliances and Release Gear.

IMO Resolution MSC.402(96) entered into force on 1 January 2020 and is applicable to Croatian flagged ships engaged on international voyages and having GT ≥ 500, and supersedes IMO Circulars MSC.1/Circ.1206/Rev. 1 and MSC.1/Circ.1227.

Subject requirements are to be read together with the provisions of the requirements of Annex 3 and Annex 5 of the Rules for statutory certification of sea-going ships, General requirements, Off. Gazette 15/2019 ("Pravila za statutarnu certifikaciju pomorskih brodova, Opći propisi" (NN 15/2019)), until Rules are published in consolidated edition

By implementing IMO Resolution MSC.402(96) Maritime Administrations are invited to ensure that the thorough examination, operational testing, repair and overhaul of equipment to be conducted by certified personnel of either the manufacturer or an authorized service provider shall be carried out in accordance with SOLAS Reg. III/20 by service providers authorized in accordance with Section 3 and Section 7 of the Resolution.

Requirements of IMO Resolution MSC.402(96) apply to the maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of:

1. lifeboats (including free-fall lifeboats), rescue boats and fast rescue boats; and
2. launching appliances and on-load and off-load release gear for lifeboats (including primary and secondary means of launching appliances for free-fall lifeboats), rescue boats, fast rescue boats and davit-launched liferafts.

For above equipment IMO Resolution MSC.402(96) requires:

- weekly / monthly inspections and routine maintenance as specified in the equipment maintenance manual(s);
- annual thorough examinations and operational tests;
- five-year thorough examination, including overhaul, overload operational tests and repairs.

Annual thorough examinations and operational tests / five-year thorough examination, overhaul, overload operational tests and repairs, shall be conducted by either:

- the manufacturer (an Original Equipment Manufacturer does not need to be authorized to service its own equipment), or
- the manufacturer acting as a service provider when servicing equipment that is not its own, authorized by an Administration of an IMO SOLAS contracting Government or by their ROs ¹⁾ in accordance with the IMO Resolution MSC.402(96), or
- a service provider, authorized by an Administration of an IMO SOLAS contracting Government or by their ROs ¹⁾ in accordance with the IMO Resolution MSC.402(96), or
- the manufacturer acting as a service provider when servicing equipment that is not its own, or a service provider, certified by the RO recognised by this Administration according to the provisions of IMO Resolution MSC.402(96).

Only acting Croatian RO (RO which issued the Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate or the Passenger Ship Safety Certificate on behalf of this Administration) is responsible and authorised to validate (accept) certification for particular service provider.

Service providers seeking approval according to IMO Resolution MSC.402(96) for Croatian flagged ships (and not being already certified according to the Resolution as above) are to contact recognized classification societies (ROs) authorized by this Administration.

In addition to above, service providers are to note that their personnel should be certified in accordance with IMO Resolution MSC.402(96) for each make and type of the equipment to be worked on in accordance with Section 8 of the Resolution.

Managing Companies (as defined in SOLAS, Reg. IX/1.2) must ensure that from **1 January 2020**, the maintenance, required examinations, operational tests, overhaul and repair of equipment are carried out by and authorized service provider in accordance with IMO Resolution MSC.402(96) for each make and type/model of equipment.

Service providers already approved under provisions of IMO MSC.1/Circ.1227 and IACS UR Z17, as amended, are acceptable for six-months transitional period, i.e. until expiry date of existing approval, but in no case later than **30 June 2020**. However, in exceptional cases this Administration may accept prolongation of such transitional period, subject to special consideration based on written proposal / recommendation made by acting RO.

Where the Original Equipment Manufacturer is no longer operating and there is no access to spare parts, Managing Company, together with acting RO, should undertake effort to locate a service provider capable of supplying spare parts, manufactured, inspected and tested to specifications of the original manufacturer and to inform this Administration on such approach, based on certification of such alternative service provider issued for servicing of equipment and/or long-term experience as an authorized service provider.

¹⁾ Including but not limited to ROs recognized by this Administration, but however being EU Recognized classification societies pursuant to the requirements of the Regulation (EC) No. 391/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on common rules and standards for ship inspection and survey organizations

