



CO-ORDINATION OF NOTIFIED BODIES
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RECOMMENDATION FOR USE

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Question related to PPE Regulation PPE Guidelines EN/prEN: EN ISO 12402-9:2020 Other:

Article: Annex: Clause: 5.6.1.1, 5.6.1.2 & 5.6.1.3, Table 3, Table 4 and Table 5

Key words:
Test subject selection criteria Multi-Sized Buoyancy Aids (level 50)

Question:
EN ISO 12402-9:2020 includes different requirements for test subject selection for 'multi-sized' buoyancy aids in 5.6.1.2 (para 2), but this is not currently differentiated in the footnotes of Table 3. How are the footnotes of Table 3 applied for multi-sized buoyancy aids for test subject selection criteria?

Solution:
Multi-Sized Buoyancy Aids (level 50)
For a multi-sized buoyancy aid (level 50), the second paragraph of clause 5.6.1.2 applies, and a minimum of 3 test subjects in each size shall be tested. It is recognised that a smaller number of test subjects is tested for buoyancy aids, because the in-water performance requirements are lower than for lifejackets (level 100, 150 & 275) as per clause 5.6.1.2 (para 2).
Footnote a) of Table 3 applies across the full range of sizes so that no more than two thirds of test subjects shall be of any one gender.
Footnotes b), c) and d) of Table 3 do not apply, as the manufacturers stated user mass/size range is used for subject size selection.
Footnotes e) and f) of Table 3 are applied for each size and the 3 test subjects in each size shall cover the smallest and largest body mass ($\pm 5\%$) of the manufacturer's stated range, plus one other subject within the stated mass range.

See example below for a buoyancy aid with 5 sizes, subjects should be selected as follows:

Buoyancy Aid	25kg-40kg	40-60kg	60-80kg	80-100kg	100kg+
Lowest mass range $\pm 5\%$	One subject between 23.75kg and 26.25 kg	One subject between 38kg and 42kg	One subject between 57kg and 63kg	One subject between 76kg and 84kg	One subject between 95kg and 105kg
Mid mass selection	One subject between 27kg and 38kg	One subject between 43kg and 57kg	One subject between 64kg and 57kg	One subject between 85kg and 95kg	One subject between 106kg and 120kg
Upper mass range $\pm 5\%$	One subject between 38kg and 42kg	One subject between 57kg and 63kg	One subject between 76kg and 84kg	One subject between 95kg and 105kg	One subject >120kg (upper adult mass range of Table 3)

In addition, where a manufacturer does not state an upper limit to the user mass range, for example, states a size range of 100kg+, then the largest size category (>120kg, >1900mm) of Table 3 shall be used as the upper cell.

Note: This would also be the case for any other sizes stating no upper limit, e.g., 70kg+, 90kg+.