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RECOMMENDATION FOR USE

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Question related to PPE Regulation

EN/prEN: EN ISO 12402:2020, Parts 2-5

Other:

Article:

Annex:

Clause: 6.2

Key words:

Resistance of PFD labels to salt water and cleaning

Question:

EN ISO 12402:2020 Parts 2-5, Clause 6.2 has the following statement following the requirements for information to be included on the lifejacket:

'The label bearing this information shall be permanently affixed to the lifejacket, shall be resistant to salt water and stand at least 10 washes carried out in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. The label shall not shrink more than 10 % after washing.'

There is no defined test in EN ISO 12402-9:2020 (Test methods). How should this be tested?

Solution:

The following test procedure shall be applied:

Resistance to Salt Water (Method from EN ISO 12402:2006 Sea water resistance test))

Method: The PFD shall be immersed in a tank of artificial sea water (4,5 % NaCl) horizontally (300 ± 30) mm below the surface for a period of 72 h at normal room temperature.

Requirement: There shall be no visible signs of damage and the marked information shall remain legible.

Resistance to Cleaning (Method from EN ISO 15027-3:2012 & EN 14225-1:2017)

Method:

- a) Clean the PFD in accordance with the manufacturers cleaning instructions. If no other temperatures are indicated in the instructions for use, the temperature of the cleaning and disinfectant solutions (if applicable) shall be (25 ± 2) °C. Perform the test 10 times.
- b) Determine the original length and width dimensions after standard conditioning. Repeat the measurements for length and width following exposure to salt water and cleaning. Calculate the difference in dimensions in both the length and width dimensions.

Requirement:

- a) There shall be no visible signs of damage. The label bearing the information shall not shrink more than 10 % after washing and the marked information shall remain legible.
- b) The difference in dimensions shall not be greater than 10 % (shrinkage).

Note: If the label bearing the marked information is a separate label stitched/affixed to the PFD, it is acceptable to expose only the label for these tests. If the information is applied integrated to the PFD, i.e. screen printed to cover fabric or inflation chamber material, then the whole PFD shall be exposed. If inflatable, the PFD shall be uninflated for this test with any automatic elements disarmed.