

**[MIA MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 197,
February 23, 2004]**

**REVISED RULES TO RATIONALIZE LIFE SAVING APPLIANCES
REQUIREMENTS UNDER CHAPTER IX OF THE PMMRR 1997**

Pursuant to the provisions of Presidential Decree No. 474 and Executive Order No. 125, as amended, and in order to foster a rationalized implementation of Chapter IX of the Philippine Merchant Maritime Rules and Regulations (PMMRR) 1997, as amended, the following are hereby prescribed.

I. OBJECTIVE

To rationalize certain appliances and equipment required of ships operating in the domestic trade pursuant to the regulations under Chapter IX of the 1997 PMMRR.

II. COVERAGE

All Philippine-registered ships regardless of hull construction operating in the Philippine waters, including fishing vessels temporarily operating in international waters.

III. DEFINITION

For purposes of this Circular, the following definitions shall apply: -

1. ADMINISTRATION - refers to the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA).
2. ACCREDITED SUPPLIER/SERVICING ENTITY - refers to a private individual or entity authorized by the Administration to engage in manufacturing, servicing and supplying ship's appliances and equipment.
3. BUOYANT APPARATUS - refers to a liferaft, or any craft or floating device, as allowed by the Administration, provided for as a means for a person/s to be in an afloat condition in the event of abandonment of the ship.
4. CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTION (C.I) - refers to a certificate issued, after inspection and survey by the Administration or its deputized agent, to ships operating in Philippine waters upon compliance with the provisions of the PMMRR 1997, as amended.
5. COASTWISE VOYAGE - a coastwise voyage limited to greater coastal waters subject to the jurisdiction of the Philippines.

6. COMPANY - refers to the Owner of the ship or any other organization or person such as the Manager, or the Bareboat Charterer, who has assumed the responsibility for operation of the ship from the Shipowner and who, on assuming such responsibility, has agreed to take over all the duties and responsibilities in the operation of the ship.

7. DEPUTIZED AGENT - refers to a government agency or other entities which the Administration has authorized to act on its behalf in implementing the provisions of the PMMRR 1997, as amended, as well as the national and international safety rules, regulations and Codes, as applicable.

8. LIFE-SAVING APPLIANCES AND EQUIPMENT - refers to the appliances and equipment required of each type of ship in Chapters IX of the PMMRR 1997, as amended, and other relevant provisions of national and international safety rules and regulations and codes.

9. PARTLY PROTECTED COASTWISE VOYAGE - a coastwise voyage limited to coastal waters in which a ship is not at any time more than 100 miles by sea from the point of departure and not more than 15 miles from land at any point.

10. PROTECTED VOYAGE - a voyage limited to bays, harbors, rivers, lakes or similar areas and waters in which a ship is not more than three (3) nautical miles from land.

11. SAFETY RULES AND REGULATIONS - refers to provisions of the PMMRR 1997, as amended, and other relevant national and international safety rules, regulations and Codes.

12. SURVIVAL CRAFT - refers to a craft provided for accommodating persons on board a ship in the event of abandonment of the ship and includes lifeboats, liferaft (inflatable or rigid) and any other craft as approved by the Administration, suitable for the protection and preservation of persons in such circumstances.

Other terms used in this Circular and its Annex shall be as defined in international conventions/codes and/or issuances of this Authority.

IV. GENERAL POLICY GUIDELINES

1. Life-saving appliances and equipment for each type, class and category as listed in Section V of this Circular shall serve as equivalents to those prescribed in PMMRR 1997, as amended.

2. Life-saving appliances and equipment shall be of the approved type and shall be acquired from an accredited manufacturer/supplier or services by an accredited servicing entity.