

sections listed below. The following particulars apply:

DOT No: 2115.

OMB Control No.: 2115-0141, 2115-0576, and 2115-0577.

Paperwork requirements	OMB control No.
a. § 160.076-13	2115-0619
b. § 160.076-21	2115-0619
c. § 160.076-29	2115-0619
d. § 160.076-31	2115-0619
e. § 160.076-33	2115-0619
f. § 160.076-35	2115-0619
g. § 160.076-37	2115-0619
h. § 160.076-39	2115-0619

Administration: U.S. Coast Guard.

Title: Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements for Fire Fighting Equipment, Structural Fire Protection Materials, Lifesaving Equipment, and Marine Sanitation Devices; Instructional Material for Lifesaving, Fire Protection, and Emergency Equipment; Identification of Lifesaving, Fire Protection, and Emergency Equipment.

Need for Information: Production records are needed to verify compliance with the materials and quality control requirements in the production of this lifesaving equipment. Because PFDs are estimated to last up to 10 years, the Coast Guard is requiring manufacturers to retain production records for 120 months. Records that are also available from recognized laboratories are required to be retained for only 60 months (§ 160.076-33). Instructional materials are needed so that boaters can make an informed decision on the type of PFD best suited to their boating safety needs, and understand how to properly service their PFD or know when to get professional servicing or remove their inflatable PFD from service. Equipment identification (labelling) is needed to indicate that a PFD is Coast Guard approved, so that boaters know it is Coast Guard approved before buying it and to show boarding officers that the equipment meets the Coast Guard carriage requirements, any conditions on meeting those requirements, and so that boaters will be warned of possible dangerous conditions in using the PFDs. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is needed to document the responsibilities of the laboratory and the Coast Guard in relation to equipment testing, inspection, and approval.

Proposed Use of Information: Production records will be used to verify that suitable materials are used and that quality control is exercised in production of this lifesaving equipment. Instructional materials are used to inform boaters of the types of PFD best suited to their boating safety needs, and

how to properly service or know when to get professional service or remove their inflatable PFD from service. Equipment identification will be used to indicate to boaters which inflatable PFDs are approved, allow boaters to show that the PFDs meet the Coast Guard carriage requirements, convey any conditions on meeting those requirements and warn of possible dangerous conditions in using the PFDs. An MOU formally documents the responsibilities of the laboratory and the responsibilities of the Coast Guard in relation to equipment testing, inspection, and approval.

Frequency of Response: Production records are maintained by the manufacturers. No regular reporting is required. Instructional materials are provided with each PFD produced, but only reported to the recognized laboratory or the Coast Guard when approval is sought or when revised. Equipment identification is required on each PFD produced, but the initial label layout is the only response reported to the recognized laboratory or the Coast Guard when approval is sought or when revised.

An MOU is required only once, when a laboratory seeks to become a recognized laboratory for a particular classification of equipment.

Burden Estimate: The annual burden for the production of 50,000 inflatable PFDs by five manufacturers is estimated at approximately 100 hours for production records; 320 hours for instructional materials; and 83 hours for equipment identification industry-wide. The total annual burden for production of PFDs is estimated as 503 hours industry-wide.

The Coast Guard estimates that no more than one MOU per year would be developed. Drafting of the MOU should not require more than two weeks of effort for one person, for an annual burden of 80 hours. Copies of existing MOUs may be obtained from the Coast Guard and modified to meet the needs of the individual laboratory and the Coast Guard.

Respondents: PFD production record respondents are the estimated five manufacturers that will produce Coast Guard approved inflatable PFDs for recreational boats.

MOU respondents are laboratories that seek to become recognized independent laboratories.

Form(s): No Federal forms are required.

Average Burden Hours per Respondent: 101 hours annually for each of the five manufacturers producing PFDs.

If the average recognized laboratory enters into a new or revised MOU once every five years, the average annual burden would be 16 hours.

The Coast Guard has submitted the requirements to OMB for review under section 3504(h) of the Paperwork Reduction Act. Persons submitting comments on the requirements should submit their comments both to OMB and to the Coast Guard where indicated under **ADDRESSES**.

Federalism

The Coast Guard has analyzed this rule under the principles and criteria contained in Executive Order 12612 and has determined that this rule does not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment. This rulemaking establishes procedures for Coast Guard approval of inflatable PFDs. The authority to establish these requirements are committed to the Coast Guard by Federal statutes. Furthermore, since PFDs are manufactured and used in the national marketplace, safety standards for PFDs should be national in scope to avoid burdensome variances. Therefore, the Coast Guard intends this rule to preempt State action on the same subject matter.

Environment

The Coast Guard considered the environmental impact of this rule and concluded that under paragraph 2.B.2 of Commandant Instruction M16475.1B, this rule is categorically excluded from further environmental documentation. This rule has no environmental impact other than the beneficial impact of reducing the volume of unicellular plastic foam going into landfills as inherently buoyant devices are discarded when no longer serviceable. A "Categorical Exclusion Determination" is available in the docket for inspection or copying where indicated under **ADDRESSES**.

List of Subjects in 46 CFR Part 160

Marine safety, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Incorporation by reference.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 46 CFR part 160 as follows:

PART 160—LIFESAVING EQUIPMENT

1. The authority citation for Part 160 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 46 U.S.C. 2103, 3306, 3703 and 4302; E.O. 12234, 3 CFR, 1980 Comp., p. 277; 49 CFR 1.46.