



Servicing / Technical bulletin number: 081

Issued to: All Service Network (Approved sites)

Date Issued: Jan 2024

Subject: Life Program for Crewsaver Lifejackets .

Issued by: Guy Page (Technical)

Exp date: open

Dear Network

We are often asked “How long does a lifejacket last”?

We have seen over the last year or so, more Manufactures have started to state that after 10 years a lifejacket needs to be changed.

We have reviewed this, and we are giving guidance to the life program for a lifejacket.

We see jackets used and stored in many ways and some jackets (Today) can have major components change such as the covers, webbing sets and the chambers, so they should not be limited to just 10 years.

Please find attached two documents, that should be of help.

If you have any questions, please contact: -

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2010 SOLAS Approvals and Life program.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

With the introduction of the new 2010 SOLAS approvals changes which came into force in 2010, we would recommend any lifejackets still in service and manufactured to the original pre 2010 SOLAS approvals be replaced with new lifejackets built to the new SOLAS 2010 standards.

The continual development from Crewsaver design & technology department to the new standards including the development of materials and components ensures Crewsaver continue to manufacture lifesaving equipment to the highest standards.

Model/styles of lifejackets pre 2010 could now support components that have reach the end of life-program and can no longer be supported within the service network.

(Life-program is 10 years from end of manufacture of the component.)

Lifejackets now affected:-

SeaFire TC/SOLAS lifejackets

Early model Seacrewsader and Crewfit twin (Pre 2010)

SOLAS Lifejacket Service Requirements.

All Inflatable Lifejackets that conform to SOLAS requirements must be serviced annually, “at” a Manufacturer Authorised Service Station, as per SOLAS III/20.8. and MCA MGN 548 (M + F)

From year 1-10 SOLAS Lifejacket are required to be serviced annually

From year 10 Servicing should become more “frequently” on “**safety**” grounds because of the possibility of delamination of the fabrics and flotation bladders leading to porosity and failure.

[More “Frequently” Checked.](#)

Note this is a guidance, as Lifejackets are used and stored in many ways, and this will determine what level of service it should be reduced by.

These may be reduced to the following, service every 10 months, 8 months, and 6 months.

Survitec

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It should be based around the following points.

- Age of jacket 10-12 years 10 months, 12-14 years 8 months and 15 years every 6 months
- Use of jackets (If frequently used, then the service should reduce to 6 months at year 10.)
- Storage of jackets, Jackets that are stored in direct sunlight will require checking more frequently than those stored in an enclosed area. (This should be assessed by the service technician) if required further approval or advise, images should be taken and returned to the OEM (Crewsaver) to advise.

How to work out the age of your jacket: - you should be able to work this out from your serial number.

Serial number L 0706 2666

L (only found on the newer jackets) type of capsule in jacket

07 =2007, 06 =June, 2666 (makes the full serial number)

The use of old lifesaving equipment or equipment not meeting the servicing requirements, could put the user at risk.

Please do not hesitate to contact for further help in this matter.

Signed by:- *G D Page*

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Lifejacket Life program.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

Lifejacket do not have an expiry date but they do have a life program.

This may change a little depending on the way the jacket is used/stored and packed, but this will only extend for a limited time and other checks may be required.

SOLAS Lifejacket Service Requirements.

All Inflatable Lifejackets must be serviced annually, “at” a Manufacturer Authorised Service Station, as per SOLAS III/20.8. and MCA MGN 548 (M + F) (unless **Hermetically Sealed**, where other approvals may be in place)

Or

Non SOLAS Lifejacket Service Requirement

Under MCA MGN 553 (M+F) Notice

Crewsaver Recommendation is that “All” Inflatable Lifejackets must be serviced annually*, at a Manufacturer Authorised Service Station.

From year 1-10 All Lifejacket are required to be serviced annually

From year 10 Servicing should become more “frequently” on “**safety**” grounds because of the possibility of delamination of the fabrics and flotation bladders leading to porosity and failure.

More “Frequently” Checked.

Note this is a guidance, as jacket are use and stored in many ways and this will determine what level of service it should be reduced by.

These may be reduced to the following, service every 10 months, 8 months, and 6 months.

These should be based around the following points.

- Age of jacket 10-12 years 10 months, 12-14 years 8 months and 15 years every 6 months
- Use of jackets (If frequently used, then the service should reduce to 6 months at year 10.)
- Storage of jackets, Jackets that are stored in direct sunlight will require the check more frequently than those stored in an enclosed area. (This should be assessed by the service technician) if required further approval or advise, images should be taken and returned to the OEM (Crewsaver) to advise.

Using a non-approved service agent or site may or could put the user at risk.

We recommend that you ask to see they approval certificate issued by Survitec/Crewsaver.

This will ensure that your safety product will be service as to the manual, correct tools, tests, and spare parts are used.



The continual development from Crewsaver design & technology department to the new standards including the development of materials and components ensures Crewsaver continue to manufacture lifesaving equipment to the highest standards.

Life-program is 10 years from end of manufacture of the component.

How to work out the age of your jacket: - you should be able to work this out from your serial number.

Serial number L 0706 2666

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