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**Ships and marine technology —  
Service personnel for the  
maintenance, thorough examination,  
operational testing, overhaul and  
repair of lifeboats and rescue boats,  
launching appliances and release  
gear —**

**Part 1:  
General requirements for training  
providers**

*Navires et technologie maritime — Personnel de maintenance pour l'entretien, l'examen approfondi, la mise à l'essai en cours d'exploitation, la révision et la réparation des embarcations de sauvetage et des canots de secours, des engins de mise à l'eau et des dispositifs de largage —*

*Partie 1: Exigences générales pour les prestataires de formation*



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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 8, *Ships and marine technology*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Maritime safety*.

This first edition cancels and replaces ISO/PAS 23678-1:2020, which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- in [Clause 3](#), definitions of make, model and series have been added;
- in [4.6.1](#), a requirement has been added for an authorized service provider to undertake a technical evaluation regarding lifesaving appliance equipment;
- text has been editorially revised in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, 2021.

A list of all parts in the ISO 23678 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

## Introduction

A major objective of the maritime industry is to prevent accidents and incidents from occurring. A global network of competent personnel employed by authorized service providers is vital for lifesaving appliances to remain fit for purpose, sustaining crew confidence and contributing to the prevention of incidents and accidents.

The need to develop an International Standard for this objective is evident from the new requirements in IMO Resolution MSC.402 (96)<sup>[5]</sup>, entitled “requirements for maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of lifeboats and rescue boats, launching appliances, and release gear”(henceforth referred to as the “IMO Requirements”) adopted 19 May 2016 and entering into force 1 January 2020, as per paragraph 7.1.1.

This document and the associated documents ISO 23678-2, ISO 23678-3 and ISO 23678-4 have been developed to achieve three key objectives:

- develop training documents that would support the IMO Requirements, section 7, paragraph 7.1.1;
- provide a consistent, reliable, and standardized approach to training and provide a clear auditable trail for interested parties to grant authorization supporting the IMO Requirements, section 3, to service providers;
- establish a competency framework that would enable personnel certified by service providers to develop and maintain competencies identified by industry experts to a level that enables them to competently work unsupervised on equipment covered by this document.

This document has been developed by identifying common training objectives in relation to survival craft, davits, winches and release gear makes and types for which service is to be provided. This has been achieved by conducting professional discussions with disciplined experts to obtain the appropriate information to develop a training programme that is fit for purpose. Successfully completing the service technician training in ISO 23678-2, ISO 23678-3 and ISO 23678-4 enables personnel certified by an authorized service provider to meet the IMO Requirements, section 7, paragraph 7.1.1., and section 8.

# **Ships and marine technology — Service personnel for the maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of lifeboats and rescue boats, launching appliances and release gear —**

## **Part 1: General requirements for training providers**

### **1 Scope**

This document establishes a uniform, safe and consistent approach to training personnel to enable them to establish and maintain the required competencies in relation to maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of lifeboats and rescue boats, launching appliances and release gear.

It also provides the necessary information for interested parties to grant authorization and effectively evaluate and audit training, supporting the IMO Requirements<sup>[5]</sup>, section 3.

It describes the competence route, resources, facilities and certification requirements for personnel trained by a manufacturer or by an authorized service provider to carry out maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of lifeboats (including free-fall lifeboats) and rescue boats (including fast rescue boats), launching appliances and release gear. This document also sets out the competence route of the candidate, and the resources that the training provider needs to deliver the training.

This document is intended to be used in conjunction with ISO 23678-2, ISO 23678-3 and ISO 23678-4.

### **2 Normative references**

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 23678-2, *Service personnel for the maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of lifeboats and rescue boats, launching appliances and release gear — Service personnel initial training*

### **3 Terms, definitions and abbreviated terms**

#### **3.1 Terms and definitions**

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>