From: Stewart, Ellen B HQ02 Sent: Monday, July 02, 2007 3:46 PM To: DLL-Division, Center, & ENCOM Commanders; DLL-Deputy Division Commanders; DLL-District & Battalion Commanders Cc: Prettyman-Beck, Yvonne J COL HQ02; Campbell, Barbara A HQ02; DLL-HQ-COP-SO-Chiefs; Nutt, Lynda G NWW; Austin, Stephen B HQ02; Pobieglo, Jeffrey C SAM; McNabb, Pat HQ02; Coulombe, Mary J HQ02; Lang, Lawrence A HQ02; Sudol, Mark F HQ02; Goff, R Eugene NWP; Riley, Don T MG HQ02; Temple, Bo M BG HQ02; Walker, James E HQ02; Norko, Walt HQ02; Pommer, Donald L HQ02; DLL-HQ-Staff Principals Subject: Auto-Inflatable PFD Use AUTHORIZED

Sir/Madam: good afternoon. CESO and CECW have collaborated for over 2 years to test auto-inflatable PFDs on USACE worksites (EM 385-1-1 disapproved their use until now). After a lengthy process, it has been determined that these PFDs may now be used as an optional type of PFD under certain conditions.

We are pleased to bring you this authorization this week when we know our USACE folks are working long, hard hours in hot conditions in an attempt to make the 4th of July week a safer time for our recreational visitors. Rangers and other field personnel have asked for these PFDs as they provide heat relief, flexibility and ease of movement, as well as exceptional turn-over capability.

Attachment 1 is CESO's authorization memorandum with Standards of Use SOP (attached to memo, which includes sample AHA and PHA). Attachment 2 is contains interim change #0010 to EM 385-1-1, 03 Nov 03, which changes wording contained in paragraphs 05.H and 19.A.03.d related to use of auto-inflatable PFDs.

These documents may also be found at our CESO Intranet website: https://hqintral.hq.ds.usace.army.mil/soh-internal/index.htm

We appreciate everyone's effort on this huge endeavor, especially the 300+ field personnel that volunteered to field test these units. A big thank you goes to USACE Auto-Inflatable PFD Product Delivery Team (PDT) and to our Commanders, who allowed their folks to participate in this undertaking

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Please share this message with your staff principles to insure the widest distribution of this information.

Thank you again, and we wish you a relaxing, SAFE 4th of July holiday.

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Ellen B. Stewart, CSP Acting Chief, CESO U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers, CESO, #3B74 441 G St. NW Washington, DC 20314-1000 Phone: (202) 761-8565 FAX: 202-761-1369



REPLY TO ATTENTION OF:

CESO

1 July 2007

MEMORANDUM FOR Commanders/Directors, Major Subordinate Commands, District Commands, Centers, Laboratories and Field Operating Activities

SUBJECT: Authorization of Automatic-Inflatable Personal Flotation Device (PFD) Use by USACE Employees

1. The use of U.S. Coast Guard-approved (for commercial use) automatic-inflatable personal flotation devices (PFDs) as optional personal protection equipment by USACE employees is authorized in accordance with the enclosed Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) dated 1 July 2007.

2. EM 385-1-1, 3 Nov 03 prohibits the use of auto-inflatable PFDs by all workers on USACE worksites. This authorization memorandum will lift this prohibition for use of these PFDs by USACE employees. An Interim Change to EM 385-1-1 will be issued and posted on CESO's website. Once posted, this change will apply to both USACE and contract workers on USACE worksites.

3. This authorization follows careful analyses and tests by USACE of several types of automatic-inflatable devices labeled U.S. Coast Guard-approved for commercial use. These PFDs were tested in practical work settings for performance, as well as associated maintenance and financial burdens of use. The field testing included 347 participants from the Operations business line that included park rangers, maintenance personnel (navigation, hydropower), lock operators, boat operators, crane operators, engineers, equipment operators, biologists and others. Every participant experienced at least one deployment of the PFD, as well as training in maintenance, storage and use.

4. The enclosed SOP identifies performance and safety criteria for the automatic-inflatable PFDs approved for use by USACE employees. Several specific types of these PFDs meeting these criteria are identified to assist with purchasing. The PFDs may only be used under the direction provided in the SOP. Only those Type III and V auto-inflatable PFDs listed in the SOP are approved for purchase and use at this time. CESO will insure that additional types/makes are reviewed annually for use by USACE employees. A local determination may NOT be made as to whether other types are approved or not.

5. Specific requirements are associated with auto-inflatable PFDs, including the completion of an Activity Hazard Analysis (AHA) and a Position Hazard Analysis (PHA) prior to maintenance and use training and subsequent individual employee authorization to utilize the inflatable PFD.

CESO (385)

SUBJECT: Authorization of Automatic-Inflatable Personal Flotation Device (PFD) Use by USACE Employees

6. We appreciate the efforts of everyone that participated in the testing program for these PFDs. It was obvious that each volunteer's desire was to better the USACE safety and occupational health program by making it possible to include new, updated and innovative equipment that will, in the long run, give our employees more options for personal protective equipment with which to protect themselves. Commanders need to insure their labor relations obligations are fulfilled and notify their local union officials of this change. Questions related to this matter should be directed to Ellen B. Stewart, CSP, Senior Safety Engineer at (202) 761-8565.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

und C.S.P.

RICHARD L. WRIGHT, CIH Chief, Safety and Occupational Health Office

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### AUTOMATIC-INFLATABLE PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE STANDARDS OF USE FOR USACE EMPLOYEES

1. Purpose. This document provides requirements for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers employee use of U.S. Coast Guard-approved for commercial operations, automatic-inflatable Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs).

2. Applicability. These requirements apply to USACE personnel working on, over or near water where risk of drowning exists.

3. References.

a. EM 385-1-1, Safety and Health Requirements Manual, Section 05.H

b. Chief, Safety and Occupational Health Office Memorandum, dated 25 May 2007, Approval of Automatic-Inflatable Personal Flotation Device (PFD) Use by USACE Employees

4. Background. This policy is a result of recommendations from the HQUSACE Safety Office and the Auto-Inflatable PFD Product Delivery Team (PDT), following a series of design and reliability tests, in addition to approval of certain models of auto-inflatable PFDs for commercial application by the U.S. Coast Guard and Underwriters Laboratories (UL).

5. Policy. USACE employees may be authorized to wear auto-inflatable PFDs meeting criteria specified in Paragraph 5.d. below, in accordance with the policy contained in this document.

a. General.

(1) Per EM 385-1-1, Section 05.H all employees are required to wear PFDs for personal protection while working on, over or near water where risk of drowning exists. However, per section 05.H, auto-inflatable PFD use on USACE work sites is prohibited.

(2) This approval for use of auto-inflatable PFDs devices changes the requirements and/or prohibitions of EM 385-1-1 (3 November 2003). Wording in the EM 385-1-1 will be changed to reflect this approval.

#### b. Criteria of Use.

(1) Auto-inflatable personal flotation devices (PFDs) require a higher level of wear and maintenance responsibility than inherently buoyant PFDs. Approval for use shall be reviewed individually by supervisor and employee. Supervisory approval to use the auto-inflatable PFD as Government-issued personal protective equipment is required. Approval shall be based on a Position Hazard Analysis (PHA) and an Activity Hazard Analysis (AHA) prepared in advance of use and maintained on file with the project and District safety office. Auto-inflatable PFDs will not be allowed for use in heavy construction, maintenance, or other work areas in which there is a high likelihood of damage to the vest, including puncturing, burns or excessive abrasion, as identified in the AHA.

(2) The U.S. Coast Guard and auto-inflatable PFD manufacturers recommend that these PFDs be worn only by persons having the ability to swim due to the fact that they possess no inherent buoyancy.

(3) Employees opting to use auto-inflatable PFDs must be trained in use, maintenance and general care of their auto-inflatable PFD. In addition, HQUSACE Safety Office requirements (per this memorandum), U.S. Coast Guard and PFD manufacturer's instructions for use, care and storage of the auto-inflatable PFDs shall be followed. Participants will be trained in both the automatic and manual inflation techniques, as well as the mouth inflation feature that will aid in flotation following deployment.

c. Hazard Analysis Process. In accordance with paragraph 5.b (1) above, a comprehensive Position Hazard Analysis and Activity Hazard Analysis shall be developed to justify which positions/jobs warrant authorization for approval of use. These analyses must identify and address high-risk activities where substitution of auto-inflatable PFDs for inherently buoyant PFDs should not be permitted, i.e., during welding activities or where damage to the device that could diminish performance is likely to occur. Attached documents provide <u>sample guidance</u> to assist districts and project offices in conducting a PHA and associated project AHA as per EM 385-1-1, Safety and Health Requirements Manual. The preparation of the PHA and AHA is the responsibility of the supervisor. Originals shall be kept on file at the project office and copies filed with the District safety office for reference.

(1) Position Hazard Analysis. A PHA must be prepared to identify the position and associated duties that may warrant the use of auto-inflatable PFDs.

(2) <u>Activity Hazard Analysis</u>. Managers who have identified employees via the PHA must prepare a project AHA for each duty listed in the PHA.

#### d. Equipment Standards.

- (1) Only auto-inflatable PFD models meeting the following criteria are approved for use. **Exceptions to these standards are not authorized.** 
  - (a) U.S. Coast Guard-approved for Commercial Use
  - (b) Thirty (30)-pound buoyancy minimum post-deployment

(c) Auto-inflatable PFD with manual back-up feature for inflation in the event the automated device fails

- (d) Auto-inflation deployment reaction within 5-seconds
- (e) Face-up rollover capability, reaction within 5-seconds
- (f) Outer shell must be a highly visible orange/reddish color; PFD bladder can be yellow
- (g) Minimum of 200 square inches of retro-reflective tape, visible post-deployment
- (h) Equipped with one of two approved CO<sup>2</sup> inflator types:
  - 1. Halkey-Roberts 1F inflator
  - 2. Hammar MA-1 inflator

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- (2) Three known models that meet these minimum equipment standards are:
  - (a) Stearns Model #1470 with Halkey-Roberts 1F inflator and appropriate re-arm kit
  - (b) Mustang Model #MD3087 with Halkey-Roberts inflator and appropriate re-arm kit
  - (c) Mustang Model #MD3183 with Hammar MA-1 inflator and appropriate re-arm kit

e. Maintenance of Auto-Inflatable PFDs.

(1) Employees approved to use auto-inflatable PFDs will be personally responsible for the care, security and maintenance of his/her Corps-procured auto-inflatable PFD. Failure to properly follow use, maintenance and storage requirements and guidance will be cause for supervisory authorization to be withdrawn and equipment removed from the employee's use.

(a) A system of routine visual inspections of the device, particularly before each use, shall be established. Maintenance inspections shall be conducted per manufacturer's requirements.

(b) Maintenance inspection shall include visual check of CO<sup>2</sup> cartridge, as well as the cartridge device, inflatable bladders, break-away closures, manual pull cords, and durability of the fabric. The inflator CO<sup>2</sup> cartridge shall be replaced after the deployment, once the device is properly dried and prior to next intended use.

(c) Following any incident of deployment, the auto-inflatable device shall be properly repackaged, re-armed and ready for use. Employees shall be trained in the steps required to prepare the PFD for reuse, including:

- General device inspection (bladders, deployment device, cords, breakaway closures)
- Installation of a fresh CO<sup>2</sup> cartridge

- Properly drying the internal bladders and the inflator component of the PFD before repackaging
- Folding bladders properly and securing breakaway closures (Velcro or zipper)
- Assuring green "ready" indicator is viewable through device window

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# SAMPLE POSITION HAZARD ANALYSIS

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JOB SERIES: 0025	JOB TITLE: Park Ranger		
EMPLOYEE NAME (Please Print):		OFFICE SYMBOL:	
EMPLOYEE SIGNATURE:			DATE:
ANALYZED BY (Immediate Supervisor):			DATE:
REVIEWED BY (Safety Office):			DATE:

	YES	NO
Is employee in the Medical Surveillance Program?		
Is employee required to wear personal protective equipment (i.e., safety boots or glasses, respirators, hearing protection, etc.)?		
Does employee require safety training (i.e., HTRW, confined space, HAZCOM, respirator, electrical, hearing)?		

ACTIVITY	LOCATION	HAZARD	CONTROLS
Office work		Eye strain	Ensure proper lighting. Ensure computer monitor and document copy stand are at approximately the same height and distance. Reduce computer screen glare by installing anti-glare/anti-static screens.
		Wrist strain	Ensure computer keyboards are adjusted so that the elbows are at a 90-degree angle and arms and hands are parallel to the floor. Use wrist rests or other support so that wrists are maintained in a neutral position.
		Neck/shoulder fatigue	Ensure video display terminals are properly adjusted so that the top of the screen is slightly below eye level and the screen is between 18 and 28 inches away. Document or copy holders should be at the same height and distance as the screen.
		Slips/trips/falls	Use good housekeeping practices. Secure tripping hazards (cords) to floor. Do not leave file drawers open when unattended.
		Lifting	Use proper lifting techniques. Get assistance when necessary. When lifting, keep the load close to the body and lift with the legs.
		Electrical shock	Do not reconfigure wiring in systems furniture panels. Ensure equipment is properly maintained and grounded. Protect electrical cords from damage by using cord covers. Do not overload outlets.
		Office machinery	Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry. Be cautious when making Mylar copies (hot).
۰. د		Walking	Be alert of walking surface, wear flat shoes.
		Cutting tools	Cut in the direction away from hands and body.
	,	File cabinets/shelves	To avoid tipping, fill the bottom file/shelve first. Do not open more than one drawer at a time. Place heavy objects in the bottom drawers/shelves.

ACTIVITY	LOCATION	HAZARD	CONTROLS
Field inspections and investigations	Field and construction locations		(
		Compressive foot injuries	Wear appropriate safety shoes/boots that meet ANSI Z 41.
		Ankle and leg injuries	Wear proper field boots with ankle and leg protection.
		· Head injuries	Wear hardhat when exposed to overhead hazards. Hardhats are required to be worn at all times when in Hard Hat Areas.
		Eye injuries	Wear appropriate eye protection as necessary.
		Hand injuries	Wear appropriate gloves as necessary.
		Exposure to hazardous waste	Wear appropriate level of protective clothing and equipment. Be knowledgeable of procedures to follow when on hazardous waste sites. Maintain certification in accordance with 29 CFR 1910.120.
		Noise	Wear proper hearing protection devices.
		Slips/trips/falls	Use good housekeeping practices. Be observant of walking/working surfaces. Wear proper field boots and be observant of terrain. Use safety lines when necessary.
		Working in confined spaces	Know signs and symptoms of oxygen deficient and poisonous/explosive gases. Have available and use, when necessary, air monitoring meters, respirator gas mask and/or portable air supply. Know and understand rescue and evacuation procedures.
		Loss of extremities	Wear clothing that will not get caught in machinery. Do not wear jewelry.
		Working over water	Wear lifeline and harness, and life jacket.
		Potential fall of over 6 feet	Use positive fall protection.
		Working in confined spaces	Know signs and symptoms of oxygen deficient and poisonous/explosive gases. Have available and use, when necessary, respirator gas mask and/or portable air supply. Know and understand rescue and evacuation procedures.
		Cutting/grinding/chipping, sawing	Wear appropriate protective clothing (headwear, goggles, hearing protection, gloves, boots, and leg guards). Ensure equipment is properly guarded. Use correct cutting techniques. Ensure all airline joints are correct and are properly secured.
	at a start of the	Working around suspended loads	Do not enter an area within the radius of swing when there is a suspended load. Obey posted warning signs. Be alert for and obey verbal instructions from the designated signal person. Ensure that persons conducting the lift are using proper equipment and procedures.
<u>د</u>		Snake bites	Wear proper field boots or snake chaps. Do not harass/kill snakes.
		Animal bites	Wear proper clothing. Do not approach animals. Use caution and composure when encountering animals.
		Insect bites and stings	Knowledge and avoidance of such insects. Caution and knowledge of any allergies to such bites or stings. Do not wear perfume or cologne. Know where to obtain first aid.
		Poisonous plants	Knowledge and avoidance of such plants. Wash after contac
	•	Trenches/excavations	Stay out of unsupported trenches. All trenches/excavation

egress points and evacuation plan. Fumes and dust Ensure proper ventilation and wear respirator if necessar Welding burns/flash Avoid velding operations. When exposure is unavoidable wear proper clothing, gloves, and use recommendations. Read Material Safety Data Sheet for specific hazards before use. Moving equipment Keep alert and out of the way of heavy equipment. Wildfires and controlled burns Personal thal be trained and wear appropriate fire resist clothing, gloves, goggles and wear appropriate fire resist clothing, gloves, goggles and wear appropriate fire resist clothing, gloves, goggles and wear appropriate fire resist visitor Assistance Visitor Assistance Visitor Assistance Public contact Pepper Spray Exposure to the elements Boat Patrol, Work Boat or Personal Valer Craft Operation Craft Operation Craft Operation Craft Operation Craft Operation Craft Operation Travel City, Highway and Secondary roads Motor vehicle accidents Uneven surfaces Down surfaces Reduced visibility Reduced visibility Craft Operation Craft Oper	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	HAZARD	CONTROLS
Welding burns/flash         Avoid welding operations. When exposure is unavoidable wear proper dothing, gloves, and safety goggles.           Hazardous/flammable chemicals         Obey manufacturer's handling, storage, and use recommendations. Read Material Safety Data Sheet for specific hazards before use.           Welding outprent         Keep alert and out of the way of heavy equipment.           Wildfres and controlled burns         Personal shall be trained and wear appropriate fine-resist clothing, gloves, goggles and near appropriate fine-resist clothing, gloves, goggles and near proper Personal Protective Equipment.           Visitor Assistance         Public contact         Ensure personal trained in Blood Borne Pathogers procedures, Fine-Ald/OPR, Verbal Judo and have proper Personal Protective Equipment.           Visitor Assistance         Public contact         Ensure that personal hands for events clothing, gloves, goggles and response that sequences of carrying peoper spray.           Boat Patrol, Work barge         Boat or Personal Water Craft Operation         Drowning, weather, submerged objects         Wear proper clothing. Be aware of exposure duration an limit duration if necessary. Be knowledgeable of the symptoms of exposure related linesses.           Travel         Clip, Highway and Secondary reads         Sigs/trips/fails         Wear proper rothing. Be aware of exposure duration an limit duration if necessary. Be travwel durated an wear appropriate set coaled with an anti-skid surface.           Travel         Clip, Highway and Secondary reads         Motor vehicle accadents         Wear proper rothing. Be a				shall be evaluated and shored accordingly. Be familiar win egress points and evacuation plan.
Wear proper clothing, gloves, and safety goggles.           Hazardous/flammable chemicals         Obey manufacturer's handling, sorrage, and use recommendations. Read Material Safety Data Sheet for specific hazards before use.           Moving equipment         Keep alert and out of the way of heavy equipment.           Wiaffres and controlled bums         Personal shall be trained and wear appropriate fire-resist dothing, gloves, goggles and respirator as needed.           Visitor Assistance         Public contact         Ensure personal trained in Blood Bome Pathogens procedures, First AddOPR, Verbal Judo and have proper Personal Protective Equipment.           Popper Spray         Ensure hat personal have been trained in use and responsibilites of carrying peoper spray.           Boat or Personal Water Craft Operation         Drowning, weather, submerged objects         Wear proper clothing. Be aware of exposure duration an limit duration if necessary. Be knowledgeable of the symptoms of exposure related illnesses.           Boat or Personal Water Craft Operation         Drowning, weather, submerged objects         Wear proper fortwear. Maintain good housekeeping. Remove grease and of form working surfaces.           Travel         City, Highway and Secondary reads         Motor vehicle accidents         Wear proper fortwear. Maintain good housekeeping Remove grease and of form working surfaces.           Travel         City, Highway and Secondary reads         Motor vehicle accidents         Wear proper fortwear. Maintain good exposure duration an limit duratin if necessary. Be trowniedgeable of the symptoms of ex			Fumes and dust	Ensure proper ventilation and wear respirator if necessary
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Deer and other wildlife Stay alert, use caution, and drive defensively. Dust Drive with windows closed. Reduced visibility Ensure windows/mirrors are free from snow and ice. Driwith headlights on. Reduce speed appropriately. Slick, snowy, or icy roads Use studded or chained tires, reduce speed, and increase following distances. Commercial travel Airlines Obey safety rules on common carrier transportation. Cross-Country Travel ATV Operation Wear appropriate safety clothing, complete ATV rider commercial travel Commercial travel Commercial travel ATV operation Commercial travel Commercial travel Commercial travel Commercial travel Cross-Country Travel Commercial travel Co	Travel		Motor vehicle accidents	weather conditions. Employ defensive driving technique
Dust       Drive with windows closed.         Reduced visibility       Ensure windows/mirrors are free from snow and ice. Driwith headlights on. Reduce speed appropriately.         Slick, snowy, or icy roads       Use studded or chained tires, reduce speed, and increase following distances.         Commercial travel       Airlines       Obey safety rules on common carrier transportation.         Cross-Country Travel       ATV Operation       Wear appropriate safety clothing, complete ATV rider common carrier transportation.	·		Uneven surfaces	Reduce speed appropriately.
Reduced visibility       Ensure windows/mirrors are free from snow and ice. Driwith headlights on. Reduce speed appropriately.         Slick, snowy, or icy roads       Use studded or chained tires, reduce speed, and increase following distances.         Commercial travel       Airlines         Cross-Country Travel       ATV Operation         Wear appropriate safety clothing, complete ATV rider country			Deer and other wildlife	Stay alert, use caution, and drive defensively.
Reduced visibility       Ensure windows/mirrors are free from snow and ice. Driwith headlights on. Reduce speed appropriately.         Slick, snowy, or icy roads       Use studded or chained tires, reduce speed, and increase following distances.         Commercial travel       Airlines         Cross-Country Travel       ATV Operation			Dust	Drive with windows closed.
following distances. Commercial travel Airlines Obey safety rules on common carrier transportation. Cross-Country Travel ATV Operation Wear appropriate safety clothing, complete ATV rider country		·	Reduced visibility	Ensure windows/mirrors are free from snow and ice. Dri with headlights on. Reduce speed appropriately.
Cross-Country Travel ATV Operation Wear appropriate safety clothing, complete ATV rider col			Slick, snowy, or icy roads	Use studded or chained tires, reduce speed, and increas following distances.
••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••		Commercial travel	Airlines	Obey safety rules on common carrier transportation.
		Cross-Country Travel	ATV Operation	

## SAMPLE ACTIVITY HAZARD ANALYSIS

### ACTIVITY: Auto-inflatable PFD Test ANALYZED BY/DATE:

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**REVIEWED BY/DATE:** 

PRINCIPAL STEPS	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	RECOMMENDED CONTROLS
Using auto- inflatable PFD during work	Device improperly worn or assembled	Employees shall follow manufacturer's instructions for wearing, assembling CO2 cartridge mechanism, and pre-work inspection of PFDs
	Device damage from work	Do not expose auto-inflatable device to work environment that has potential to cause device damage such as welding slag, sharp objects, punctures, solvents, crushing, etc.
	Device Damage from storage	PFD shall be stored according to manufacturer's recommendations when not in use – PFD shall not be exposed to excessive moisture, crushing, extreme heat, etc. while stored.
	Discharge – equipment defect	Devices shall be worn and used properly – if a PFD inflates when wearer is not immersed it may cause injury or an accident. If such inflation occurs, it shall be reported to supervisor and to National Operations Center for Water Safety for possible action on a national level.
	Drowning	All auto-inflatable PFD users shall have basic ability to tread water and must be physically able to swim while wearing these PFDs. Persons with injuries or illnesses that temporarily or permanently prevent them from being able to swim shall not use auto-inflatable PFDs for the duration of the illness or injury.
	Device inoperable due to discharge	Offices that issue auto-inflatable PFDs to employees shall maintain an adequate number of recharging kits for the CO2 cylinders. Employees shall be instructed on how to obtain a recharge after deployment. Devices shall not be used until recharged

## Authority to use Automatic-Inflatable Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) Change #0010

Replace the following 2 SECTIONS in EM 385-1-1, Nov 03

## Replace Section 05.H in its entirety with the following:

## 05. H. PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES

05.H.01 Inherently buoyant Type III, Type V work vests, or better U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)-approved personal flotation devices (PFDs) shall be provided to and properly worn (zipped, tied, latched, etc., in closed fashion) by all persons in the following circumstances: **>See Types at Figure 5-1** 

- a. On floating pipelines, pontoons, rafts, or stages;
- b. On structures or equipment (including heavy operating equipment that is not secured to the structure) extending over or next to water except where guardrails, personal fall protection system, or safety nets are provided for employees;
- c. Working alone at night where there are drowning hazards regardless of other safeguards provided;
- d. In skiffs, small boats, or launches, unless in an enclosed cabin or cockpit; or
- e. Wherever there is a drowning hazard.

05. H.02. Automatic-Inflatable PFDs Type V or better, USCG-approved for Commercial Use, may be worn by workers on USACE sites in lieu of inherently buoyant PFDs (see conditions 05.H.01.a-e above), provided the following criteria are met:

- a. PFDs are worn only by workers over 16 years of age and those who weigh 90 lb or more,
- b. An AHA must be performed for this activity,
- c. PFDs must be inspected, maintained, stowed and used only in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions (currently not intended to be used in areas of heavy construction or maintenance or where hot work (welding, brazing, cutting, soldering, etc.) is to be performed),
- d. PFDs shall provide a 30-pound minimum buoyancy post-deployment,

e. USACE employees shall comply with USACE's Auto-Inflatable Personal Flotation Device, Standards of Use Procedures, dated 1 July 2007.

05. H.03 All wearable PFDs shall be of a highly visible orange/reddish color (46 CFR Part 160 and equipped with retroreflective material meeting USCG requirements (46 CFR Part 25.25-15). Each PFD shall be equipped with a USCG-approved automatically activated light (lights are not required for PFDs on projects performed exclusively during daylight hours). Before and after each use, the PFD shall be inspected for defects that would alter its strength or buoyancy.

05. H.04 Throwable devices (Type IV PFD).

- a. On USCG-inspected vessels, ring buoys are required to have automatic floating electric water lights as required by 46 CFR 160.
- b. On all other floating plant and shore installations, lights on life rings are required only in locations where adequate general lighting (e.g., floodlights, light stanchions) is not provided. For these plants and installations, at least one life ring, and every third one thereafter, shall have an automatic floating electric water light attached.
- c. All PFDs shall be equipped with retroreflective tape in accordance with USCG requirements.
- d. Life rings (rope attachment not required) and ring buoys (rope attachment required) shall conform to the requirements of 46 CFR 160 (USCG approved) and should have at least 70 ft (21.3 m) of 3/8-in (0.9-cm) solid braid polypropylene, or equivalent, attached. Throw bags may be used in addition to life rings or ring buoys. Life rings or ring buoys shall be readily available and shall be provided at the following places:
  - (1) At least one on each safety skiff;

(2) At least one on all motor boats up to 40 ft (12.1 m) in length and at least two for motor boats 40 ft (12.1 m) in length or longer;

(3) At least two on any other piece or group of floating plant up to 100 ft (30.4 m) in length and one additional for each increase in length of 100 ft (30.4 m) or fraction thereof; and

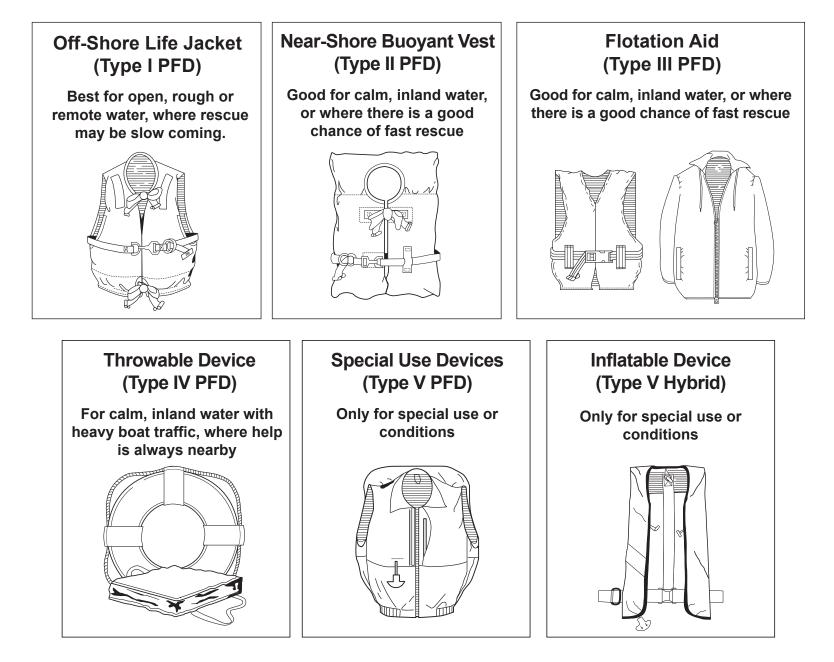
(4) At least one at intervals of not more than 200 ft (60.9 m) on pipelines, walkways, wharves, piers, bulkheads, lock walls, scaffolds, platforms, and similar structures extending over or immediately next to water, unless the fall distance to the water is more than 45 ft (13.7 m), in which case a life ring shall be used. (The length of line for life rings at these

locations shall be evaluated, but the length may not be less than 70 ft (21.3 m)).

05.H.05 At navigation locks, an analysis of the benefits versus the hazards of using floating safety blocks (blocks that may be quickly pushed into the water to protect individuals who have fallen in the water from being crushed by vessels) shall be made.

- a. This analysis shall be documented as an AHA.
- b. If the use of blocks is found acceptable, consideration shall be given to the size and placement of the blocks, the appropriate means of securing and signing the blocks, etc. When the use of blocks is found unacceptable, alternative safety measures shall be developed.
   <u>Authority to use Automatic-Inflatable Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)</u>

# FIGURE 5-1 PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES



Replace 19.A.03.d with:

19.A.03.d USCG approved PFDs (Types I, II, III, or V) shall be worn by all personnel on decks exposed to severe weather, regardless of other safety devices used. <u>USCG-approved, Type V automatic inflatable PFDs rated for commercial use may be worn by workers on USACE sites per 05.H.02.</u>