



Australian Government

Civil Aviation Safety Authority

Instrument number CASA EX58/23

I, ROBERT KENNETH WALKER, Acting Director of Aviation Safety, on behalf of CASA, make this instrument under regulations 11.160, 11.205 and 11.245 of the *Civil Aviation Safety Regulations 1998*.

[Signed Rob Walker]

Robert Walker
Acting Director of Aviation Safety

31 May 2023

CASA EX58/23 — Crew Life Jackets (Skyplan Australia Pty Ltd t/a Rotorlift) Exemption Instrument 2023

1 Name

This instrument is *CASA EX58/23 — Crew Life Jackets (Skyplan Australia Pty Ltd t/a Rotorlift) Exemption Instrument 2023*.

2 Duration

This instrument:

- (a) commences on the day it is made; and
- (b) is repealed at the end of 30 April 2026.

3 Definitions

In this instrument:

CAR means the *Civil Aviation Regulations 1988*.

CASR means the *Civil Aviation Safety Regulations 1988*.

compliant life jacket means a life jacket that is compliant with the requirements of, or approved under, Part 21 of CASR.

crew member has the same meaning as in the CASR Dictionary.

helicopter emergency escape device means a self-contained breathing apparatus consisting of a compressed air bottle, a mouthpiece, and a regulator.

helicopter underwater escape procedures means the procedures for underwater escape from a relevant helicopter that Rotorlift must include in:

- (a) its exposition for operations under Part 133; or
- (b) its operations manual for operations under Part 138.

manufacturer means S O S Marine.

MOS means Manual of Standards.

PFD means personal flotation device.

relevant operation means a flight of a helicopter operated by Rotorlift:

- (a) for which a crew member is issued with an SOS-6343 PFD; and
- (b) to which any of the following Parts of CASR apply:
 - (i) Part 91;
 - (ii) Part 133 — but only in relation to flights that are medical transport operations;
 - (iii) Part 138.

Rotorlift means Skyplan Australia Pty Ltd, ARN 554908, trading as Rotorlift.

S O S Marine means Case Investments Pty Ltd, ARN 1006566, trading as S O S Marine.

SOS-6343 PFD means the combination survival vest and personal flotation device, part number SOS-6343, manufactured by S O S Marine, and, in this instrument, is taken to include its helicopter emergency escape device.

4 Application

This instrument applies, according to its terms, to:

- (a) Rotorlift; and
- (b) the pilot in command of a relevant operation;
in relation to the use by crew members of an SOS-6343 PFD in a relevant operation, but only in respect of such a PFD as was:
 - (c) in the possession of Rotorlift immediately before the commencement of this instrument; or
 - (d) on order by Rotorlift from the manufacturer before the commencement of this instrument.

5 Exemption — private operations and aerial work operations

- (1) The pilot in command is exempted from compliance with subregulations 91.810(2) and (3) of CASR, but only to the extent that the requirement under subsection 26.02(2) of the Part 91 MOS applies to a life jacket for each person mentioned in paragraph 26.56(2)(b) of the MOS who is a crew member.

Note The requirement under subsection 26.02(2) of the Part 91 MOS is that equipment must be compliant with the requirements of, or approved under, Part 21 of CASR. A life jacket mentioned in paragraph 26.56(2)(b) of the MOS is one that is carried on a helicopter.

- (2) The exemption is subject to the conditions mentioned in section 7.

6 Exemption – CASR Part 133 – medical transport operations only

- (1) Rotorlift is exempted from compliance with subregulations 133.360(2) and (3) of CASR, but only to the extent that the requirement under subsection 11.02(1) of the Part 133 MOS applies to a life jacket for each person mentioned in paragraph 11.49(2)(b) of the MOS who is a crew member.

Note The requirement under subsection 11.02(1) of the Part 133 MOS is that equipment must be compliant with the requirements of, or approved under, Part 21 of CASR. A life jacket mentioned in paragraph 11.49(2)(b) of the MOS is one that is carried on a helicopter.

- (2) The exemption is subject to the conditions mentioned in section 7.

7 Conditions — Rotorlift

- (1) Rotorlift must ensure that each crew member in a relevant operation (other than such a member who is supplied with a compliant life jacket) is supplied with an SOS-6343 PFD.
- (2) Rotorlift must ensure that the requirements under sections 26.57 and 26.59 of the Part 91 MOS, and subsection 11.49(3) of the Part 133 MOS, as applicable, for the stowage and wearing of life jackets, are complied with in relation to the SOS-6343 PFD.
- (3) Rotorlift must ensure that each SOS-6343 PFD for use during a relevant operation has the following:
 - (a) reflective markings;
 - (b) a whistle;
 - (c) a light;
 - (d) a manual inflation function.
- (4) Rotorlift must ensure that each SOS-6343 PFD for use during a relevant operation has passed annual servicing and testing in accordance with manufacturer's instructions (the *required maintenance*).

Note An SOS-6343 PFD includes its helicopter emergency escape device — see the definition of SOS-6343 PFD.

- (5) Rotorlift must ensure that the required maintenance for each SOS-6343 PFD is performed by one of the following:
 - (a) a maintenance organisation approved by CASA under regulation 30 of CAR that is authorised to service and test flotation equipment;
 - (b) a Part 145 organisation that is authorised to service and test flotation equipment;
 - (c) the manufacturer of the SOS-6343 PFD.
- (6) Rotorlift must ensure that each crew member in a relevant operation has demonstrated the following to Rotorlift at the intervals mentioned in paragraph (7)(b):
 - (a) competence in the correct stowage of an SOS-6343 PFD;
 - (b) competence in the correct use and fitment use of an SOS-6343 PFD, including in particular the operation of:
 - (i) the harness buckle system; and
 - (ii) the helicopter emergency escape device; and
 - (c) knowledge of, and competence in the use of, Rotorlift's helicopter underwater escape procedures.

Note These requirements may be satisfied when they are part of Rotorlift's training and checking obligations under Part 133 and Part 138 of CASR.

- (7) Rotorlift must ensure that each crew member mentioned in subsection (6) must:
 - (a) before first participating in a relevant operation:
 - (i) have completed training in the matters listed in paragraphs (6)(a), (b) and (c); and
 - (ii) successfully demonstrated competence in those matters; and
 - (b) thereafter, successfully demonstrate their competence in the matters listed in paragraphs (6)(a), (b) and (c) as follows:

- (i) in relation to helicopter underwater escape procedures — subject to subsection (8), at intervals of not more than 3 years after the previous demonstration;
 - (ii) for the matters other than helicopter underwater escape procedures — subject to subsection (8), at intervals of not more than 1 year after the previous demonstration.
- (8) Any demonstration of competence mentioned in this instrument, required to be completed at intervals of 1 or 3 years, that is successfully completed within 90 days before, or after, its due date is taken to meet the requirements stated in paragraph (7)(b) as if it had been completed on the due date.
- (9) Rotorlift must ensure that a crew member does not wear an SOS-6343 PFD unless:
 - (a) the SOS-6343 PFD complies with the requirement of subsections (3), (4) and (5); and
 - (b) the crew member meets the requirements of subsection (6).
- (10) Rotorlift must ensure that a copy of this instrument is included in:
 - (a) its exposition for operations under Part 133; or
 - (b) its operations manual for operations under Part 138.
- (11) Rotorlift must keep a record of the required maintenance that was carried out on each SOS-6343 PFD.
- (12) Rotorlift must keep a record of each instance that a crew member demonstrated knowledge and competence of the matters mentioned in subsection (6).
- (13) Rotorlift must:
 - (a) keep the record mentioned in subsection (11) for at least 3 years after the record was created; and
 - (b) keep the record mentioned in subsection (12) for at least 5 years after the crew member ceases to be a member of Rotorlift's personnel.

8 Direction — the pilot in command

Before a relevant operation, pilot in command must be satisfied that the applicable conditions under section 7 have been actioned or complied with.

Note The exemption under section 5 is from an obligation that is otherwise on the pilot in command to ensure that only compliant life jackets are used. The exemption under section 6 is from an obligation that is otherwise on the operator to ensure that only compliant life jackets are used.
