

# SAFETY ALERT - TECHNICAL No. 34

---

## LIFE-SAVING APPLIANCES SAFETY of LIFEBOUYS

### Information from manufacturer of Lifebuoy Eval, Type 558

To be read in conjunction with the Safety Alert No 32.

The manufacturer of the Lifebuoy Eval, Type 558 has contacted Maritime and Coastguard Agency with request to download the attached letter.

The Maritime and Coastguard Agency strongly recommends that owners and operators who have Lifebuoy Eval, Type 558 onboard their vessels and others who may own, sell etc. carefully follow the instructions provided.

It also should be noted that both Safety Alerts refers only to Lifebuoy Eval, Type 558 with year of marking 2004, for which following certificates were issued:

- EC Type Approval Certificate (Module B), by Lloyd's Register on 21 April 2004, Certificate No. MED 0250047/M1;
- Certificate of Conformity (Module F), by Lloyd's Register on 9 December 2004, Certificate No. 0430271-B, for lot 11/04



To: Maritime and Coastguard Agency

Our ref. : 8016/A

Athens 14 September 2010

Subject: Lifebuoy Eval, Type 558

To whom it may concern

EVAL S.A. would like to felicitate your concern regarding safety at sea, and we address to you in reference to the Safety Alert Technical 32 (Rev. 01/10 - issued on 5/8/10), found on MCA webpage, concerning the lifebuoy code 558.

The problem you are referring to has been met to one Eval lifebuoy code 558 with production lot 11/04 (manufactured in November of 2004).

Owners of Eval lifebuoys of the same code can perform the following test to evaluate the safety capability of the lifebuoys according to the resolution MSC.81(70):

1. Attach a 14,5 kg load made out of steel, centrally below the lifebuoy using some additional ropes or on a wooden block placed on the upper surface of the lifebuoy.
2. Place the lifebuoy together with the attached load inside a tank filled with water.
3. Leave the lifebuoy in the tank for 24h.
4. Inspect the lifebuoy's buoyancy capability.

If the lifebuoy still floats on the surface of the water after 24h, the lifebuoy is completely safe as far as the buoyancy is concerned. If the lifebuoy cannot float, it has to be eliminated from the safety equipment of the ship.

Eval manufactures safety equipment for about 30 years and during this period we did not have a single claim regarding buoyancy problems in our lifebuoys.

Eval will certainly take the responsibility of any problem that will be met in lifebuoys code 558 and will proceed to replacements of any possibly found defective product, as far as the buoyancy capability and any other quality problems are concerned.

Yours sincerely

Mr. E.G. Vallianatos

Managing Director

EVAL S.A.

