



# Standard Guide for Location and Instruction Symbols for Evacuation and Lifesaving Equipment<sup>1</sup>

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## INTRODUCTION

This guide provides information on symbols for lifesaving appliances and arrangements required by Chapter III/9.2.3 of the 1983 Amendments to the 1974 Safety of Life at Sea Convention (SOLAS). Though this requirement applies only to ships that have either a SOLAS Passenger Ship Safety Certificate or SOLAS Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate, it is recommended that all vessels or facilities engaged in waterborne operations seriously consider the use of this guide.

## 1. Scope

1.1 This guide covers those symbols to be used to identify the location and operation of lifesaving equipment related to evacuation of personnel in the marine environment.

1.2 The symbols depicted should be used whenever graphic representation could assist personnel in locating their emergency stations and equipment and in the operation of such equipment.

1.3 Posters or signs depicting these symbols should be placed in conspicuous locations in the vicinity of survival craft, their launching controls, or other lifesaving equipment.

1.4 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

## 2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *Safety of Life at Sea Convention*:<sup>2</sup>

SOLAS 74 International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea

## 3. Significance and Use

3.1 The symbols depicted represent the following:

3.1.1 Equipment required during evacuation or rescue,

3.1.2 Location of muster stations in preparation for evacuation or rescue, or

3.1.3 The sequence of events for operation of survival craft.

3.2 Where station numbers are used with another symbol, they should be abutted to the right hand side of the other symbol.

3.3 Arrows may be used with any other symbol and, where feasible, should point in the direction of the equipment or station by being abutted to the symbol on the edge toward which the arrow is pointing.

3.4 Symbols that indicate station or equipment location should be in white on a green background (see Figs. 1 and 2).

3.5 Symbols that specify the operating sequence of survival craft should be in white on a blue background (see Fig. 3).

3.6 Symbols used as legends in station bills, lifesaving equipment arrangement plans or drawings, or other posters, need not meet the dimensions specified in 3.7.

3.7 Symbols used as markers to indicate the location of stations or equipment should be sized in accordance with 3.7.1 or 3.7.2.

3.7.1 Station number symbol dimensions should be a minimum of 150 mm in height by 75 mm in width (6 by 3 in.).

3.7.1.1 Station number symbol dimensions of 600 by 300 mm (24 by 12 in.) should be used for greater prominence with the larger muster station symbol specified in 3.7.2.1.

3.7.2 Other symbol dimensions should be a minimum of 150 by 150 mm (6 by 6 in.), except:

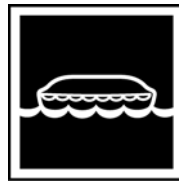
3.7.2.1 A muster station symbol with dimensions of 600 by 600 mm (24 by 24 in.) may be used in conjunction with the larger station number symbol specified in 3.7.1.1.

3.8 Symbols depicted in Figs. 1 and 2 should represent the survival craft that is actually provided.

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<sup>2</sup> Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, <http://www.ansi.org>.



(a) Lifeboat



(b) Rescue Boat



(c) Liferaft



(d) Davit Launched Liferaft



(e) Embarkation Ladder



(f) Evacuation Slide



(g) Lifebuoy



(h) Lifebuoy with Line



(i) Lifebuoy with Light



(j) Lifebuoy with Light and Smoke



(k) Lifejacket



(l) Child's Lifejacket

FIG. 1 Symbols for Location of Emergency Equipment and Muster and Embarkation Stations (continued in Fig. 2)

#### 4. Illustration of Symbols

4.1 Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 (a through w) are symbols indicating location of emergency equipment and muster and embarkation stations.

4.2 Fig. 3 (a through j) represent the general sequence of events that can be expected during the launching of survival craft. The symbols should reflect the launching procedure recommended by the survival craft or system manufacturer.

#### 5. Keywords

5.1 emergency stations; evacuation equipment; instruction symbols; lifesaving equipment; marine; safety equipment; Safety of Life at Sea Convention; ship; ship evacuation; SOLAS; survival craft; symbols