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**Service personnel for the
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 —**

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

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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).

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).

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.

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

A list of all parts in the ISO/PAS 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.

Introduction

The industry recognises that a major objective 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.

It has been recognized from the new requirements in IMO Resolution MSC.402 (96) for 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 (henceforth referred to as the "IMO Requirements") adopted 19th May 2016 and entering into force 1st January 2020, that it is necessary to develop an International Standard. This necessity is based on the IMO Requirements, paragraph 7.1.1:

"Employment and documentation of personnel certified in accordance with a recognized national, international or industry standards as applicable, or a manufacturer's established certification programme. In either case, the certification programme shall comply with section 8 for each make and type of equipment for which service is to be provided;"

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

1. The first objective was to develop training documents that would support the IMO Requirements, section 7, paragraph 7.1.1.
2. The second objective was to develop training documents that would provide a consistent, reliable, and standardised approach to training and provide a clear auditable trail for interested parties to grant authorisation supporting the IMO Requirements, section 3, to approved service providers.
3. The third objective was to develop training documents that would enable personnel certified by authorized 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 design features 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/PAS 23678-2, ISO/PAS 23678-3 and ISO/PAS 23678-4 enables personnel certified by an authorized service provider to meet the IMO Requirements, section 7, paragraph 7.1.1., and section 8.

The ISO/PAS 23678-series on service technician training consist of:

- Part 1: Guidance to training providers; describes the competence route of the candidate and the resources that the training provider needs to deliver the training.
- Part 2: Initial training; describes the training programme for initial familiarisation and induction training, which is classroom education. The training programme focuses on introducing individuals to the complex terminology, rules and regulations, organisations, health, and safety that a service technician needs to understand in order to carry out their role.
- Part 3: Level 1 training; describes the controlled environment education and training delivered at a training school. The training programme focuses on the technical training for type specific lifesaving appliances.
- Part 4: Level 2 in-field competence; describes the requirements for initial in-field and ongoing competence assessments.