

**Offshore Special Regulation 4.22.1.a – Lifebuoys and 4.24 - Heaving Line**

**A lifebuoy shall not be replaced with a Lifesling**

A submission from Sten Edholm, Special Regulations Sub-Committee

Purpose or Objective

To amend 4.22.1.a to separate the functions of a lifebuoy and the recovery aid “Lifesling” . To add a Lifesling as mandatory in Cat 0-3.

Proposal

Delete the second part of the sentence 4.22.1.a ;

A lifebuoy with a self-igniting light and a drogue ~~or a Lifesling with a self-igniting light and without a drogue.~~

Add

New paragraph 4.24.c “A Lifesling shall be provided”

Cat 0-3

Reason

The lifebuoy’s prime importance is to support the person in water (PIW) and to help to localize where he went overboard. The Lifesling’s prime function is however to get the PIW back on board when found. If the crew in rough sea and high speeds throws the Lifesling overboard, it will either stay fastened with the boat and not support the PIW or, if not fastened, it may be drifting away and not be available when it later is really needed to get the PIW back on board.

It seems that it may be adequate to have only a heaving line in Cat 4, while for Cat 3 and above it seems adequate to have the more efficient Lifesling.