



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 868 of 4th April 2025

To	All Surveyors/Auditors. All flags
Title	Ventilation Requirements for Partially Enclosed Lifeboats
Reference	LSA Code for PELBs

Ventilation Requirements for Partially Enclosed Lifeboats

At the previous session, SSE 10 recognized the need for further discussion regarding ventilation requirements for partially enclosed lifeboats (PELBs) and liferafts.

It was determined that additional supporting information was necessary. During the current session, the Sub-Committee reviewed submissions highlighting the compelling need for ventilation requirements for PELBs. Experiments indicated that natural ventilation through entrances alone is insufficient for maintaining safe carbon dioxide (CO₂) levels, particularly in adverse conditions. The International Life-Saving Appliance (LSA) Working Group advanced the draft amendments to the LSA Code for PELBs, discussing a CO₂ concentration threshold of 5,000 parts per million (ppm).

It was agreed to develop an amendment that will be incorporated as a new paragraph 4.5.5, specifying requirements for mechanical and natural ventilation. The Sub-Committee concluded that while there is a compelling need for ventilation requirements for PELBs, no such need was demonstrated for liferafts.

The Sub-Committee noted the progress made and invited interested Member States and international organizations to submit proposals regarding the CO₂ concentration threshold of PELBs for consideration at SSE 12 in 2026.

The discussions on the preliminary draft amendments to the LSA Code concerning ventilation requirements of PELB will be further considered at the next session SSE 12 (2026).

REFERENCES:

- LSA Code for PELBs

ATTACHMENTS: No

Kindest Regards,
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