



CO-ORDINATION OF NOTIFIED BODIES
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| Article: | Annex: | Clause: 5.4 | |
| Key words: PFDs for fire fighting | | | |
| Question: What compatibility testing is to be carried out for PFDs specifically intended for fire fighting application? | | | |
| Solution: The PFD must meet the performance requirement for the relevant part of ISO 12402 depending on performance level with the following additions: 1. In water performance compatibility testing PFDs intended specifically for fire fighting application shall be tested for in water performance in accordance with 5.6 of EN ISO 12402-9:2006+A1:2011 with each ensemble of equipment (i.e. protective clothing, breathing apparatus and head protection) it is intended to be worn in conjunction with. It is not required to test for in water performance in swimwear only. The likelihood is that for this type of PFD the design is specialised to accommodate the fire fighting equipment (i.e. larger neck aperture) and it is therefore unlikely that a PFD will meet the in water performance requirements with test subjects wearing swimwear only. 2. 180°C hot exposure test The whole PFD shall be tested in accordance with ISO 17493 at a temperature of (180 ± 5) °C for 5 min. After exposure the performance of the PFD shall be proved by an in-water test in accordance with ISO 12402-9:2006, 5.6.5. All components of the PFD including the gas cylinder shall be exposed. Adequate provisions must be incorporated in to the design of the PFD to ensure that the gas cylinder is protected during exposure to heat. | | | |