

# SEAGO LIFERAFT

## GX MODEL

### OWNERS MANUAL & OPERATING HANDBOOK

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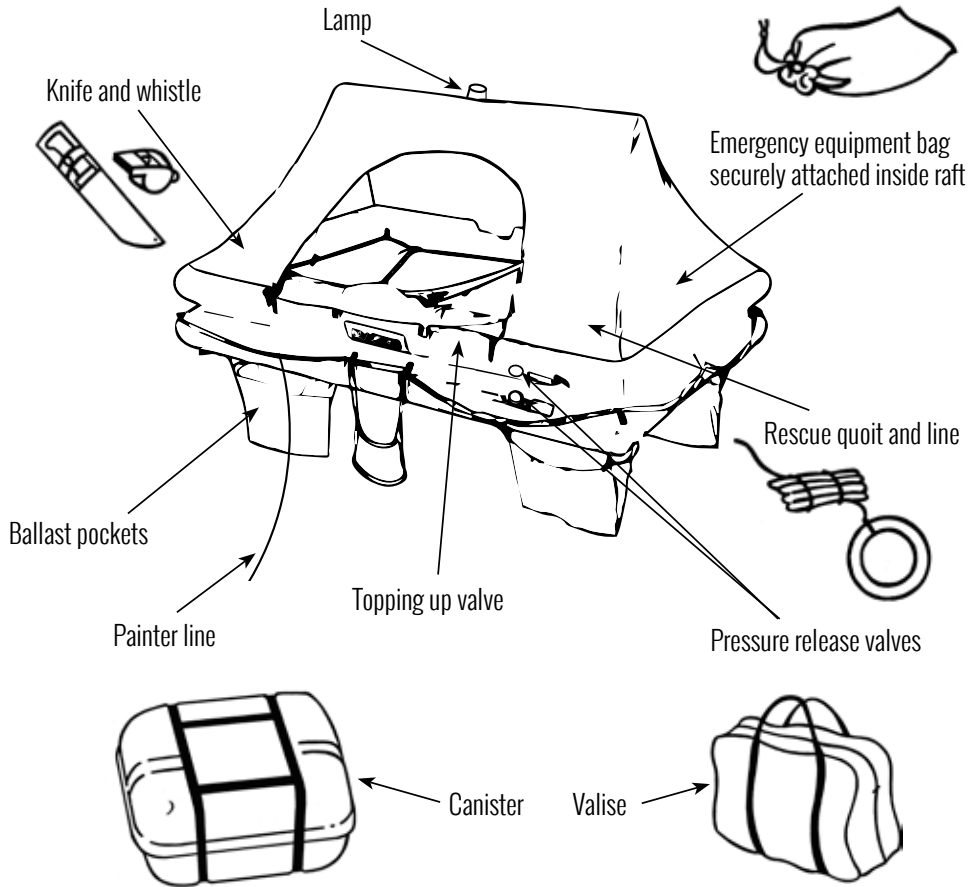
#### First steps

1. Register the liferaft to activate warranty at [www.seagoyachting.co.uk/register](http://www.seagoyachting.co.uk/register) or post the registration form provided.
2. Affix service due date using stickers provided.
3. Familiarise yourself with the liferaft before stowing.
4. Read owners manual and operating handbook.

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Equip for *Adventure*

# LIFERAFT LAYOUT



# OWNERS MANUAL

## READ CAREFULLY BEFORE USE

Thank you for choosing a SEAGO liferaft- it is important that you familiarise yourself with these instructions in order to ensure correct deployment and maximum safety in the event of abandon ship becoming necessary. You must register your liferaft with Seago to activate the 12 year warranty.  
register at: [www.seagoyachting.co.uk/register](http://www.seagoyachting.co.uk/register)

You must strictly follow the 3 year servicing intervals as specified by seago yachting.

**Note:** if you are sailing outside of uk controlled waters you should check with the appropriate authorities to ensure compliance with local laws and regulations.

It is possible that more frequent servicing is required by some countries and authorities.

The manufacturers (seago yachting) requirements for servicing do not override the need for compliance with laws and regulations outside of uk waters.

### Important

This liferaft must be serviced and used in strict accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Failure to follow the user instructions may result in serious injury or failure of the equipment to operate correctly.

Failure to have your liferaft serviced at an approved Seago service station and at the correct service intervals may result in failure of the equipment to operate correctly and will invalidate your warranty.

### Installation on Board

If you have any doubts as to the correct fitting or stowage of this liferaft you should seek professional advice or installation from a qualified person.

**Note:** Incorrect installation may result in a critical failure of the liferaft to operate correctly. Never tie any cord, rope or webbing around the valise or canister as this will restrict or prevent the raft from inflating correctly.

### Valise

The Valise Liferaft should be stowed in such a place clearly marked so it can be accessed quickly and easily in an emergency. If you stow in a locker the valise must have sufficient space around it to allow for any loss of vacuum to the packed raft. Additionally the raft should be suitably stowed within the locker so as to prevent any movement of the raft caused by the wave motion. Failure to prevent this movement may over time cause abrasion to the valise and possible damage to the raft.

- **Do not store the valise raft near any hot pipes or allow the raft to come into contact with any chemicals such as petrol, diesel, oil or other.**
- **Do not stow in a locker where it might become inaccessible.**
- **Do not stow the valise in sunlight.**

The valise is security sealed at the zipper and should never be opened by any person other than a trained Seago service technician. If the security seal is not present or damaged when you purchase the raft you should not use the raft and immediately inform the retailer.

If the security seal is removed or missing between servicing intervals the warranty will be void, and you should immediately stop using the raft and return it to a qualified Seago service centre for checking.

## Canister

Ensure that in the case of deck mounting, the top is facing uppermost and the drainage hole facing down. In the case of pushpit mounting, ensure that the label is facing outboard and the side drainage hole is facing down. The raft canister has drainage holes in the base and 2 sides; you must only mount the raft with the drainage holes facing down.

**Note:** Do not block the drainage holes.

The canister is security sealed at one of the weak link closures, these are covered by Velcro on the black webbing, the canister should never be opened by any person other than a trained Seago service technician. If the security seal is not present or damaged when you purchase the raft you should not use the raft and immediately inform the retailer.

If the security seal is removed or missing between servicing the warranty will be void, you should stop using the raft and return it to a qualified Seago service centre for checking.

## Important

Do not remove or cut the black webbing harness prior to deployment, when the canister is deployed the weak link cords securing the black webbing harness will break and allow the raft to deploy.

Do not lift the canister using the black webbing harness, as this will cause the weak link cord to break and the raft will need to be returned to a seago approved service centre for checking.

If you wish to use this raft in conjunction with a hydrostatic release mechanism you must seek professional installation by a qualified technician

## Deployment (IMPORTANT)

Before deployment, attach the painter to a secure strong point on the boat. The total overall length of the painter is 14 meters, however the raft will activate when approximately 10 meters is pulled from the canister/valise. When you have reached the end of the painter line give a sharp tug to start inflation.

Ensure the following is carried out before boarding the liferaft:

- All crew members are wearing lifejackets
- The engine is stopped
- Collect any waterproof grab bag with extra safety equipment that may be on board.

Then throw / launch the liferaft overboard in the opposite direction to the wind and then pull firmly on the painter to inflate the liferaft.

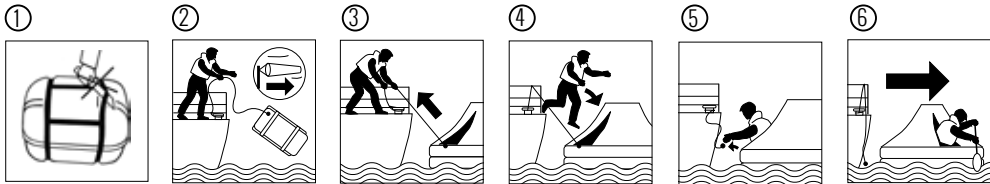
**Note:** depending on the method of attachment there is approximately 10 meters of painter line to be pulled from the liferaft before the raft can be activated, then give a sharp tug to start inflation.

(For canister model do not remove the webbing or open prior to deployment and for valise do not unzip or remove from the valise bag prior to deployment)

Your SEAGO liferaft will inflate fully within approximately 2 minutes depending on conditions and temperature.

**IMPORTANT:-** Make certain the painter is firmly attached to a strong fixed point (e.g. a cleat)

Approximately 10m of painter needs to be pulled out before your Liferaft can be activated. Ensure the final pull is a sharp tug to start inflation.



1. DO NOT Cut webbing (on canister models).
2. Ensure painter is secured to a strong fixed point i.e. a cleat. Throw the complete raft whether in Valise or Canister into water.
3. Give the painter a sharp firm tug to inflate.
4. Board raft.
5. Cut painter.
6. Paddle away from vessel.

### Boarding the liferaft

If possible, try and avoid getting wet by entering the liferaft directly from the vessel. In the event the liferaft inflates floating upside down, you will be able to see a webbing strap on the upturned floor. Use this webbing strap to right the liferaft. To do this from the water move around the liferaft to the point marked 'RIGHT HERE', pull in the webbing strap from this point to turn the liferaft over and climb into the raft using the boarding ladder.

If any other crew member then fails to enter the liferaft from the vessel directly or falls from the liferaft, use the floating quoit and rescue line to pull them close.

Once everyone is on board, remove the knife which is stowed in a pocket near the canopy entrance and cut the painter line. Take great care not to damage the raft buoyancy tubes when cutting the painter line. Remove the paddles from the safety kit and paddle away from the vessel as quickly as possible.



Righting the liferaft from the water



Recovery using quoit and line

## **Manoeuvring the Liferaft**

The paddles supplied in your safety kit are only suitable for small manoeuvres; this is due to the water ballast pockets causing essential drag. The raft can be stabilized using the drogue which is stowed near the canopy entrance; this prevents the liferaft from drifting too quickly. When the liferaft is taken in tow, remember to retrieve the drogue and stow on board.

## **Repair and Maintenance of the Liferaft in the event of deployment.**

In the event your liferaft starts to deflate, use the pump to stem the flow and keep the tubes firmly inflated. Should the liferaft get a puncture, use the clamps or conical bungs provided to affect a repair.

## **How to Signal your location**

Your liferaft is fitted with a canopy mounted light, three red hand flares and a torch. During daylight hours the canopy light should be switched off by inserting the orange pin that is tied close to the battery housed on the top canopy tube, you should remove the pin again during the hours of darkness to switch the light back on. When letting the red hand flares off (which are used to pinpoint your location), only do so when the rescue vessel is in sight. However, extreme caution must be exercised when letting them off: - follow these rules carefully:

- Always point away from the raft
- Always aim upwards
- Always lean out of the raft through the canopy exit
- Always hold at arm's length
- Warning flares are highly dangerous and can cause serious burns if used incorrectly.

The torch can be used for signalling Morse code using the flash button supplied.

The international signal for help is S.O.S. ●●● \_ \_ \_ ●●●

## **Important tips**

- Always ensure your liferaft servicing is up to date
- Stow your liferaft in an easily accessible position
- If possible, prepare a waterproof grab bag with additional survival equipment, which should be stowed in a position close to the liferaft. Some items that could be considered:

Spare spectacles

Spare water sachets

Spare lifejacket

Additional flares

EPIRB

Biscuit rations

Comprehensive survival manual

First Aid Kit



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[www.seagoyachting.co.uk](http://www.seagoyachting.co.uk)