

Civil Aviation Transport Instrument

CATI: 91.525

Civil Aviation (Flights Over Water) Transport Instrument

Initial Issue

Preliminary

The Director of Civil Aviation being satisfied that all persons and organisations that the Director considers appropriate have been consulted, having regard to the subject matter of this transport instrument, and having regard to relevant standards, guidance and practice, makes this transport instrument under section 431 of the Civil Aviation Act 2023 and Civil Aviation Rule 91.17 for the matters specified under rule 91.525.

Purpose

This transport instrument specifies the equipment required for flights over water.

Issue of Civil Aviation Transport Instrument

 30/04/2026

Signed by:

Date

Kane Patena
Director of Civil Aviation

Revision History

Initial Issue

Civil Aviation (Flights Over Water) Transport Instrument [CATI 91.525]

1.1 Title

This civil aviation transport instrument is the Civil Aviation (Flights Over Water) Transport Instrument and may be identified as CATI 91.525.

1.3 Commencement date

This civil aviation transport instrument comes into force on 12 June 2026.

1.5 Definitions

The terms used in this transport instrument have the same meaning set out in Part 1 of the Civil Aviation Rules.

1.7 Life preservers

For the purposes of rule 91.525, each life preserver must:

- (a) be equipped with a survival locator light; and
- (b) a life preserver must meet the requirements of—
 - (1) for inflatable life preservers:
 - (i) TSO C13; or
 - (ii) European Norm EN 396; or
 - (iii) New Zealand Standard NZ 5823; and
 - (2) for constant wear anti-exposure coveralls, US Coastguard Type V PFD.

1.9 Flights over water that extend to more than 100 NM from shore

For the purposes of rule 91.525 (a), (b), (c) or (d), the aircraft must be equipped with —

- (a) enough life-rafts with buoyancy and rated capacity to accommodate all the occupants of the aircraft; and
- (b) a survival locator light on each life-raft; and
- (c) a survival kit, appropriately equipped for the route to be flown, attached to each life-raft; and
- (d) at least 1 pyrotechnic signalling device on each life-raft; and
- (e) 1 ELT(S) or 1 EPIRB.

2.1 Minimum emergency equipment required

- (a) A life-raft must meet the requirements of TSO C70 and contain a survival kit.
- (b) The survival kit required in rule 91.525(b) must include—
 - (1) a canopy; and
 - (2) a radar reflector or a flare kit; and
 - (3) a life-raft repair kit; and
 - (4) a bailing bucket; and
 - (5) a signalling mirror; and

- (6) a whistle; and
 - (7) a raft knife; and
 - (8) a compressed gas bottle for emergency inflation; and
 - (9) an inflation pump; and
 - (10) a life raft retaining line of at least 20 metres; and
 - (11) a dye marker; and
 - (12) a flashlight having at least 2 'D' cells or equivalent; and
 - (13) potable water, or a means of desalting or distilling salt water, sufficient to provide at least one pint (0.4732 litres) of potable water per person at the rated capacity of the life raft. Where the potable water, or means of desalting or distilling salt water, cannot be accommodated in the survival kit that is attached to the life raft, it may be stowed and carried in an approved auxiliary survival pack that is not attached to the life raft, provided that:
 - (i) the auxiliary survival pack can be readily and quickly attached to the life raft; and
 - (ii) the air operator submits documentation to the Director identifying that the potable water, or means of desalting or distilling salt water, cannot be accommodated in the survival kit attached to the life raft and will instead be stowed in an auxiliary survival pack that is not attached to the life raft.
 - (14) a first aid kit suitable for treatment of minor injuries; and
 - (15) a sea anchor.
- (c) A survival locator light must meet the requirements of TSO C85.