



Marine Safety Information Bulletin

U.S. Coast Guard
Seventeenth Coast Guard District
Division of Inspection & Investigation
709 West 9th Street
Juneau, AK 99802

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Imperial Immersion Suit - Potential Issue

The 17th Coast Guard District wants to raise awareness of a potential safety issue with Imperial Immersion Suits, distributed by SURVITEC.

Coast Guard examiners have discovered what appears to be an issue of glue delamination or lack of adhesion on recently manufactured Imperial immersion suits. The delamination/adhesion issue was noticed in the area where the zipper assembly meets the “face-piece” and again on the footpads.



Upon notification on June 28, 2022, 17th Coast Guard District Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Office subsequently reached out to SURVITEC, who is the main distributor for Imperial immersion suits and informed them of the Coast Guard’s findings. Shortly after, SURVITEC reported that they had found a similar issue in an Imperial immersion suit in their inventory that was from a different lot number than the ones initially identified in Alaska. SURVITEC is pursuing the issue with the manufacturer and future guidance regarding this issue is forthcoming.

The Coast Guard Office of Commercial Vessel Compliance, Fishing Vessel Division (CG-CVC-3) and Lifesaving & Fire Safety Division (CG-ENG-4) at Coast Guard Headquarters have been notified as well.

At this time, it is undetermined as to the extent and seriousness of this issue as well as how many potential lot numbers of these suits may be affected. The 17th Coast Guard District recommends that vendors, owners and examiners of Imperial immersion suits take a close look at these suits when conducting visual and tactile inspections and exercise caution until amplifying guidance on the use and/or disposition of these immersion suits can be obtained and distributed.

Please contact D17 Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Coordinator Mr. Scott Wilwert at (907) 463-2810 Anthony.S.Wilwert@uscg.mil or LT Lauren Bloch (907) 463-2812 Lauren.E.Bloch@uscg.mil with any questions.