

Individual Flotation Devices

BACKGROUND

Some Regulators allow seat cushions instead of life vests as individual flotation devices. This includes takeoffs and landings at coastal or near-coastal airports. When in water, especially when cold or turbulent, it is much more difficult to hold on to a cushion for an extended period than to keep floating with a life vest.

POSITION

IFALPA believes that every commercial transport aircraft needs to carry enough life jackets/ life vests for each person on board. An "individual flotation device" does not suffice to ensure a person's safety after ditching.