



Press release

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## **VIKING releases complete ETSO-approved suit and lifejacket system - designed for operations to and from helidecks**

**Following recent EASA (European Aviation Safety Authorities) approval of the company's helicopter suit, VIKING has become one of only a few suppliers in the world able to offer a fully ETSO-approved system comprising a transportation suit and lifejacket.**

**Esbjerg, Denmark, April 12, 2010** – Leading marine safety equipment manufacturer VIKING Life-Saving Equipment A/S has now released a fully ETSO-approved system for personal protection. In accordance with ETSO regulations, the system comprises a helicopter transportation suit and lifejacket that have been tested and approved together – a stringent requirement that has held many other manufacturers back from competing in the market. All EASA members travelling by helicopter in hostile sea areas must have personal protective equipment that complies with the new regulations.

VIKING's PS4003 Transportation Suit can handle the most demanding evacuation situations while providing state-of-the-art comfort and a snug fit for maximum ease of escape. It is equipped with an intelligent thermal liner that regulates body heat, as well as a number of adjustment possibilities. The suit boasts integrated valves that can remove trapped air to control buoyancy.

The state-of-the-art VIKING PV9302 Helicopter Lifejacket is already a favorite in the offshore business. Manually or orally inflated, the lifejacket can also be purchased with a detachable Escape Breathing System at its front that provides the wearer with minimum one minute of extra air. This increases the chances of survival for crew when escaping particularly threatening situations such as helicopter submersion. The lifejacket sports a long list of features including detachable neck protection, a spray hood, emergency light, whistle, buddy line and lifting becket.

"Our ETSO-approved helicopter lifejackets have been on the market since early 2009," says Soren Jung, Offshore Sales Manager. "Our customers report that our system is easier to breathe through than competing products where the breathing 'hose' goes around the neck and breathing is impaired by, for example, a helicopter seat belt. We've also been informed that VIKING's system is much more user-friendly than what is currently available – and the lifejacket is lighter for more freedom of movement."

VIKING offers a full range of helicopter transportation suits, pilot suits and lifejackets, all of which will be available and ETSO-approved in 2010.

**Please visit [www.VIKING-offshore.com/protectiveclothing](http://www.VIKING-offshore.com/protectiveclothing) for a video demonstration of VIKING's ETSO-approved suit and lifejacket system.**

**Notes to editors:**

Founded in 1960, VIKING is a market leader in maritime safety. The company provides essential safety and fire-fighting equipment to the following segments: passenger, cargo, offshore, defence, fishing, yachting and fire.

VIKING is a privately held Danish corporation with group headquarters in Esbjerg, Denmark. Products are manufactured at facilities in Esbjerg and Bramming in Denmark, Bergen in Norway, Colorado, USA and in Bangkok, Thailand.

The company offers a choice of product packages and systems – standard or tailor-made – that are certified to the latest requirements of IMO, SOLAS, EU and the USCG.

Products include chute and slide-based marine and offshore evacuation and embarkation systems, liferafts, lifejackets, immersion suits, fire suits, work suits, pilot suits, transportation suits, man overboard (MOB) boats, davits and other life-saving appliances.

A unique network of 50 branch offices, agents, 270 certified servicing stations and worldwide stock points makes VIKING a truly global provider offering cost-effective and convenient service whenever and wherever it is needed.

**For more information about VIKING, please visit [www.VIKING-life.com](http://www.VIKING-life.com)**

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