

Making the Grade

Our testers faced the difficult task of designating standouts in a field of what they concluded were all very good choices for offshore cruising. Fairly priced, rugged, but also heavy, the Elliot 6-SOLAS is our Best Choice. The Switlik SAR-6 MKII's solid construction and safety-conscious design elements help it earn a Recommended rating. The light and economically priced DSB ISAF, and the Zodiac Class Ocean ISAF, with its strong overall scores,

are Recommended for sailors looking for a compact ISAF-approved raft. The Viking RescYou was a consistent performer with an attractive, rock-bottom price. The Switlik MD-3, the Viking RescYouPro, and the Winslow Ocean Rescue each offer key design or construction features that will appeal to offshore sailors with particular expectations. Next month, *Practical Sailor* will be looking at the quality of the survival gear that accompanied these rafts.