

Meeting Report
ICOMIA Technical Committee meeting
Rotterdam, The Netherlands
June 9, 2011

Summary and Highlights of the meeting of the ICOMIA Technical Committee (TC).

ICOMIA Technical Committee meeting

1. Previous TC Action Items

- VHF radio project – This a list of available VHF frequencies used in maritime countries. Finland, Sweden, UK and US are only submittals.
- Australian standards – Very little success; received a quote from a contractor in Australia to create a harmonized standard; \$18kAU is too high. Since then, Nik Parker has left the South Australian Maritime Association to become Executive Director of the Australian Boating Safety Association, so there is potential for progress. Currently, Australia accepts Modular F CE boats
- Discussed the requirements of Swedish owner's manuals.
- Asked MIAs for more participation in the TC.
- Distributed a paper on the US HIN system versus the EU CIN program. ABYC T-10 and the US CFR are available as references.
- EMC project – Compliance is a legal problem and ICOMIA has received a proposal to write a testing standard.
- TC 188 improvement list has been circulated to the MIAs.
- Measures on Anti-dumping – Taxes reduced from 40% to 14% and has an anti-dumping duty.
- RTTE directive – (VHF radios) EU-wide product registration.
- Approval and maintenance policy of ICOMIA standards – NMMA created policy document on protocol to handle the creation of new ICOMIA standards.
- Brazil has voluntary standards and a certification program. A briefing will be made at the technical program at METS.
- ICOMIA is available to produce or host webinars and seminars. Already held a webinar on Keel Checker.

2. EU Update

- Mutual Recognition - Sarah Anghel briefed on a Canadian-EU mutual recognition agreement regarding boat construction standards. Since new trade agreements are in the offing, this MOU has been outdated and may be cancelled. I suggested that the Canadian standards be added to the harmonized standards documents that currently contains ISO and ABYC standards.
- Presumption of Conformity – Does a product have to be recertified when a standard is changed? Current ISO standards have no phase-in period, like ABYC standards do. Usual transition period is 6 months and may extend up to 3 years. Using an older version of the standard has to be noted in the DOC. This idea needs to be addressed with the Commission. I offered that a transition period of 6 months is too short for a boat builder. Sweden has a one year transition period.
- Revised RCD – Adoption by Commission in July 2011. Send to Parliament in September 2011. Publish in early 2013. Two to three year transition period.
- RSG report – Next RSG meeting in October 2011 in the Netherlands. The new RSG Guidelines are available June 16. RSG issues include RFU approvals, modifications to DOCs, testing of fuel hoses, electromagnetic compatibility, PCA of used engines, and testing of engines based on ISO 8178.
- Underwater Noise – Topic is on the radar of the EU commission and United Nations. TC8/SC2 is developing ISO 16554, Measurement of underwater noise from merchant ships. Until now, all noise studies have been in above water noise generated from recreational craft. No data for underwater noise. Expect a paper on this issue for the next meeting
- EMC Compliance – The thought (hope) was that if a boat used EMC compliant components then the boat was complaint. But the commission said no, the entire boat must be in compliance and therefore the entire boat must be tested for EMC. A proposed test protocol has been developed by

- ABYC which would lead to an EMC test standard using a family approach. The testing would be conducted by IMANNA in Florida. Cost is \$16,000US. This proposal will be presented to the ICOMIA AGM for approval and funding.
- Norway has two organizations certifying boats. One accepts CE boats certified by other Notified Bodies and the other says that a boat must come into Norway without engines and use a Norwegian CE certified engine. This matter has been sent to the Commission for resolution.
3. US Update
 - Cindy Squires reported on a US project on small vessel security strategies. A copy of the US report is available on request. USCG wants small boating to be a partner with the CG and not consider small boaters a threat to security. Program is “see something, say something”
 4. MARPOL Annex VI
 - Adopted in 2008. Engines need catalysts to achieve required NOx levels.
 - Recreational craft are exempt but it includes all charter boats.
 - UK wants to use the US definition of recreational craft in applying this legislation.
 5. ICOMIA Fuel Consumption Standard
 - Standard has been reviewed and ready for approval at the ICOMIA AGM this week.
 - Recommends graphical displays of fuel consumption.
 - Standard will then be available for industry use.
 - I recommended that this standard be distributed to the industry via an ICOMIA webinar.
 5. Standards updates
 - 94 published standards in TC 188, Small craft.
 - Created Subcommittee 1 which handles PFDs and lifesaving equipment.
 - Joint Working Group 1, ISO and IEC, has been created for electric propulsion. John Adey is the convener.
 - Next ISO weeklong standards meeting to be held in Paris in late June. Another full week of ISO meetings will be held at METS 2011.
 - 15 ISO Standards are under review.
 - Keel Checker, an excel-based program for calculations of keel designs in compliance with ISO 12215-9, is available from the ICOMIA website.
 - The ICOMIA TC prioritized the standards due for review this year. At the top is ISO 8666, Principal data.
 - ISO Standards issues include Navigation lights, electric propulsion, distributed power, scantlings, stability, and fuel hoses testing using biofuels.
 - The simplified electronic version of ISO 12215-5 has been completed and is in a validation period. Need 2-3 builders to validate the overall concept. Action: NMMA to provide.
 - Fuel hoses – The fuel hose test standards have been revised and will be in review soon.
 - Standards Harmonized Initiative – 7 guidelines have already been published. In production: ELCI/RCD, Ventilation, Portable fuel systems. Latest guideline is the combined superlabel created by NMMA. The EPA compliant fuel systems will be added to the harmonized group.
 - ICOMIA Standards Policy – NMMA created and presented a policy on the generation of ICOMIA standards
 6. New Technologies
 - HISWA (The Netherlands) gave an overview of the makeup and operation of the association.
 7. Technical Committee Business
 - ICOMIA is available to run technical webinars. NMMA recommended that a webinar be held on the new Fuel Consumption standard.
 - Discussed whether to continue in the Energy Efficiency Project. Originally started due to pending legislation in Sweden to compare energy efficiency between boats. About half of the energy used

- in the lifetime a yacht is used in its initial production. Broadened the topic to include life cycle methodologies.
- ICOMIA will be sponsoring a hybrid marine propulsion conference on the day before METS, November 14.
 - Steve Spitzer gave an overview of NMEA which is a new ICOMIA member. This association provides standards, education and certification for the marine electronics industry. Requested partnerships and MOUs with ICOMIA MIAs. I offered that it is not the charter of the TC to endorse standards. This topic will be carried over to the next meeting.
8. METS Technology Workshop Update
- Will add a feature on rules outside the EU and US. (Brazil, Australia, Japan, South Africa, and Canada)
 - Add a topic on composite materials.
9. The next meeting of the ICOMIA Technical Committee will be held in November 2011, at the METS in Amsterdam.

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