

ABYC Project Technical Committee Report  
Product Interface PTC Meeting  
Tampa, Florida  
January 15-16, 2013

Highlights from the ABYC Product Interface Project Technical Committee (PTC) meeting:

1. Action items:
  - Boarding ladder project – Forwarded to the Hull & Deck PTC for action.
  - T-24 Owners Manuals - Published
  - High HP Tiller Steered Boats – Boats over 20 feet are subject to ABYC test standards. Item closed.
  - High Speed Craft Human Factors Design Guide – PTC to review and will discuss at the next meeting.
  - Committee on Ships and Marine Structure (ASTM F-25) – No longer a problem in litigation; document pertains to ships and not recreational boats.
  - Driver Distraction – Pilothouse entertainment displays continue to be a safety problem for operators. Proposed to apply for a CG grant to study the issue within the NMEA environment.
2. A-33, Emergency Engine Cutoff Devices
  - This standard is a guide for the design, construction, installation and performance of methods used to disable propulsion when the operator is unexpectedly displaced from the boat.
  - Discussed the requirement of a passenger falling overboard having the ability to stop the engine, which is in conflict with the captain's authority. Proposed to have this idea discussed during the next review process.
  - Forwarded this standard to the Controls Systems PTC.
3. T-5, Safety Signs and Labels
  - Is this standard still relevant?
  - Need to specify size of font in the labels.
  - Next action: Will begin a new call for comments and include all the previous sets of comments in the review. Look to get this done in the next six months.
4. T-24, Owners Manuals
  - Recommended that the owner's manual follow ANSI Z535 for reference. PTC needed more information before this reference is used.
  - Added:
    - Information on pump outs.
    - Precautions against propeller injuries
    - Station keeping systems, docking systems, mooring systems
    - Navigation lights
    - Invasive species mitigation
    - Pretrailer checklist
    - Powered ventilation
  - Next action: Wait 30 days for open comments to be answered, and then go to consensus ballot.
5. Boating Safety Checklist
  - The PTC reviewed the Safety Checklist that was developed via CG grant. Action: Review and send comments to ABYC.
6. Warning Labels Grant
  - Will use the DRE report, along with ABYC and CFR, for all labels to be evaluated.
  - DRE will create five labels using the BIRMC label protocol.
  - The goal is to provide safety information to the consumer without information overload.
  - The PTC compared all the ABYC warning labels with the DRE accident study to determine what labels applied to the warning topic. The group then applied the various types of boats to the accident

types to determine the ranking of each label. We will then prioritize and summarize all labels and turn all information over to DRE.

- The PTC also discussed the recommendation for ABYC standards to follow the format of ISO standards to add an appendix or a last clause in each standard for all owner's manual information.
7. S-XX, Consumer Information – No interest from boat builders; removed from action list
  8. T-31, Marine Law Enforcement Craft Acquisition and Safety
    - List ABYC standards referenced
    - Have the standard match H-5 for boat lengths
    - Next Action: Move to consensus ballot
  9. Wakeboard towers – Is there a need for a standard? Is there potential for lots of accidents? There are high and unique stresses in tow sports towers. The PTC determined that there was not yet justification to create a tower standard.
  10. Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 16 or Thursday September 19, 2013 at IBEX.

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