

A Safe Workplace

A Workplace Safety and Health Manual for Your Community

Section: III-E	Rules Procedures, Practices and Guidelines	Page 1 of 3
		Approved By: Harvey Bostrom
Subject: VLE-22	Operating a Boat under 6 meters with more than 7.5kW or 10HP	Effective: May 31, 2008
		Revised: April 1, 2011

PPE Required:

1. properly sized standard lifejacket for each person;
2. 2 paddles, an anchor with 15m of cable, rope or chain or any combination;
3. a bailer or a manual bilge pump;
4. Class ABC fire extinguisher;
5. buoyant heaving line, not less than 15 m in length, with rescue loop;
6. watertight flashlight;
7. three approved pyrotechnic distress signals;
8. permanently fitted navigation lights; and
9. first aid kit, in a scalable rigid-plastic watertight container, containing:
 - 20 adhesive bandages
 - 2 sterile pads
 - one 10-cm x 4.5-m gauze bandage
 - one 7.5-cm x 4.5-m roller bandage
 - three triangular bandage, with minimum base of 100 cm, and 2 pins
 - one 1.25-cm x 4.5-m roll of adhesive first-aid tape
 - one pair of safety scissors
 - 60 mL of antiseptic wound solution and 10 disposable applicators, or 10 antiseptic swabs
 - a first aid manual
 - 2 pairs of non latex examination gloves
 - one resuscitation face shield
 - a sound-signaling device

Requirements:

The boat must have a Canada Coast Guard conformity plate indicating the boats vital information including;

- vessel type, serial number, manufacturer and the compliance of the pleasure craft with the construction standards, and indicate:
 - the recommended maximum gross load capacity
 - the recommended maximum number of persons
 - the recommended maximum safe limits of engine power
 - any circumstances under which an exemption to the limits referring to engine power may apply

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The operator must carry valid proof of competency at all times according to the Competency of operators Pleasure Craft Regulation. Proof can take one of three forms:

1. proof of having successfully completed a boating safety course in Canada prior to April 1, 1999;
2. a Pleasure Craft Operator Card issued following the successful completion of an accredited test; or
3. a completed rental boat safety checklist (for power driven rental vessels).

General:

Follow safe boating practice indicated in the Operating Manual and those in the Transport Canada Safe Boating Guide.

Steps:

1. Check the weather (keep your eye on the sky throughout for weather changes in case it is necessary to head for shore), prepare a trip plan, giving it to a responsible person and instruct them to contact a rescue coordination centre if you are overdue.
2. Ensure:
 - the boat, motor, steering, throttle, electrical and fuel lines are operating properly.
 - there is sufficient fuel with a reserve of 1/3 the total fuel.
 - all the appropriate safety equipment is on board and stored properly.
3. Before a vessel leaves any place where passengers embark, the person in charge of the vessel shall brief all passengers respecting the safety and emergency procedures that are relevant to the type and length of the vessel, including:
 - the location of lifejackets;
 - the location and use of personal protective equipment, boat safety equipment and distress equipment;
 - the safety measures to be taken, including those relating to the protection of limbs, the avoidance of ropes and docking lines and the effect of the movement and grouping of passengers on the stability of the vessel; and
 - the prevention of fire and explosions.
4. The person in charge of the vessel shall, during a safety briefing, demonstrate how to put on each type of lifejacket carried on board the vessel; and
5. Report that you have safely returned from your trip.

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6. See *Powered Mobile Equipment Procedure* (section III-E, VLE-18) for general instructions to operate powered and mobile equipment.

References: *Canada Shipping Act 2001*, Small vessel regulations, for more info call Transport Canada Boating Safety Info line toll free at 1-800-267-6687 or on the web at <http://www.tc.gc.ca/acts-regulations/GENERAL/C/csa/regulations/070/csaQ76/csa076.html>.

Transport Canada Safe Boating Guide available at most Department of Conservation offices.