

Trip Report
ABYC Hull & Deck Structures PTC
Baltimore, Maryland
November 27-28, 2007

Highlights of the ABYC Hull and Deck Structures Project Technical Committee meeting:

1. H-3, Exterior hatches, doors, portlights and glazing materials
 - Deleted the exemption to the scope: Cockpit hatches covered in H-4.
 - Exterior hatches and doors that open to the interior of the hull shall be provided with a means to be secured when closed.
 - Sliding companionway hatches and doors aft of amidships shall be weathertight.
 - Sliding companionway doors shall have a means to be secured when open.
 - An exterior hatch leading to compartment sealed to the boat's interior and draining overboard need not be weathertight.
 - Will use the ISO 12216 tests (for areas 2 and 3) for watertightness of port lights; the requirements for weathertightness of port lights will use ISO 12216 for area 4.
 - Deck light was defined.
 - Hatch sizes not yet matched to ISO. May wait until ISO determines their potential hatch size changes before any changes are considered to the ABYC standard.
 - Numerous small and editorial comments.
 - Next action: Standard will go to consensus ballot and public review.
2. H-40, Anchoring, Mooring and Strong Points
 - Discussed the omission of bow rollers from the standard. Added the requirement that anchor rollers intended for mooring the boat shall have a safe working load and be fastened to withstand the permanent working load in Table 1.
 - Discussed the testing requirement for bow eyes. This is the one requirement that is keeping this standard from being used in the NMMA certification program. The proposed test requirement was lessened to a tension pull of the boat weight at the maximum design weight capacity.
 - Deleted the owners manual requirement for listing the working load limits for anchor rods.
 - Bow eyes using washers and nuts shall use a locking means (lock nuts and/or locking washers) for installation.
 - A working anchor is to hold at 30 knots, a storm anchor at 45 knots.
 - Next action: Standard will go to consensus ballot and public review.
3. Requests for Interpretation
 - H-41, Shall a bridge area designated for dingy storage have its periphery provided with coamings or an enclosure at least 30 inches above the deck, even if this area is sectioned off by a separate rail or guard line? Yes.
 - H-41, On boats with a sill, is the sill part of the change in elevation limiting the step to 12 inches. Though the PTC had said yes to this, there was enough discussion to open up the standard for review.
 - H-41, Should handholds be designated as such?
 - H-41, Can a rectangular or oblong tube be a handhold device? What should be the maximum width of this type of tubing?
 - "Companionway" needs to be defined.
 - All of these items will be addressed in the next early review of H-41.
4. Next meeting of the PTC at the call of the chair.