

American Boat & Yacht Council



For over 50 years, ABYC, a not-for-profit organization, has been developing, writing and updating the **Safety Standards** for boat building and repair in the United States. As a result of strong industry and government support, ABYC's voluntary, consensus-based standards have evolved into a viable alternative to mandatory government regulation of the marine industry.

- Industry use ABYC standards in all phases of development, production, and maintenance of boats and their accessories.
- *ABYC Standards and Technical Information Reports* is the basis for certification programs, marine surveys and inspections.
- ABYC standards enable marine industry professionals to support decisions on design, construction, and installation of equipment.
- ABYC standards increase consumer confidence in product safety.

Members also receive technical assistance from the experienced staff at ABYC, which ensures they receive accurate and timely information on all aspects of the marine industry, as well as advanced information and updates to the standards.

Over 400 member volunteers from all fields of the marine industry, as well as the United States Coast Guard (USCG) and private boat owners, participate on 17 project technical

committees that develop and revise the *ABYC Standards and Technical Information Reports*. The Standards have become a necessary resource for anyone involved in the marine industry.

In addition to developing standards, ABYC offers a comprehensive **Education Program**. ABYC offers over 25 education programs a year to help improve the skills of marine professionals, with topics ranging from Electrical Systems to Accident Investigation, just to name a few. The Education program also has an On-Site training program and some online educational opportunities.

ABYC also created a **Certification Program** that is designed to improve the quality and professionalism of boat maintenance and repair. The certification program provides standards-based, continuing technical education for marine technicians throughout the industry. The certification program consists of courses covering important technical areas such as:

- Electrical
- Refrigeration / AC
- Engines & Support Systems
- Composite Boat Building
- Marine Corrosion.

In addition to these courses, ABYC offers a three day **Standards Accreditation Course**, which is a comprehensive look at the key ABYC standards.

In an effort to better serve the education and professional

industry, ABYC is also affiliated with the **Westlawn Institute of Marine Technology**. Founded in 1930, Westlawn is the only nationally accredited and state certified distance-learning school of small-craft design in the United States.

ABYC is a leader in promoting boating safety through its **Partnerships** with other organizations. Internationally, ABYC works closely with the Canadian Coast Guard and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). In the U.S., ABYC coordinates efforts with organizations such as the USCG, National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA), Marine Retailers Association of America (MRAA), American National Standards Institute (ANSI), and many more!

The foundation for the **NMMA Boat & Yacht Certification** program also consists of both federal regulations and adopted ABYC standards for all key areas related directly to safety. Consumers should look for the "NMMA Using ABYC Standards" label when purchasing a new boat. ABYC is a proud partner and supporter of this program.

Visit
www.abycinc.org
for more
information!
