



Boating Regulations Policy

Background

Amendments to the Canada Shipping Act have resulted in many boats used in our industry being re-classified from pleasure craft to commercial passenger vessels. This essentially applies to any boat where the operator is provided. Under the current regulation, these boats would require:

- Re-registration with a new registration number
- Special training for operators
- Carriage of small vessel life jackets in place of Personal Flotation Devices
- Possibly different construction standards and inspections

Policy

NOTO recommends that regulations for small commercial vessels be harmonized with those for small pleasure craft. For all vessels under 12 meters in length that were originally manufactured to pleasure craft standards:

- Re-registration is unnecessary, and that any resources allotted to registration be used to create a single, effective boat registry
- No new fees be attached to registration
- Personal Flotation Devices be accepted in place of Standard or Small Vessel Life Jackets
- The Pleasure Craft Operator Competency Card be accepted as qualification for operators
- All construction standards approved for Pleasure Craft be accepted when these vessels are used for commercial purposes

Adopted by the NOTO Board of directors February 7, 2005.