

Meeting Report
ABYC Control Systems PTC
Charleston, South Carolina

January 11, 2018

Highlights from the ABYC Control Systems Project Technical Committee meeting:

1. Previous Action Items:

- Wireless Controls – subcommittee drafted language for wireless controls requirements and submitted for inclusion to P-28.
- Hybrid Steering Systems – subcommittee recommended hybrid systems be included in the controls standards package but no other work was accomplished. Currently, these type of systems are tested with multiple standards. The subcommittee was reconstituted to review tests needed for these systems and to recommend further action.
- Zone of Protection – subcommittee created requirements for P-14 to expand the neutral hold (lock) position for all single lever controls. The S/C also revised the requirements for the zone of protection around the boat's controls. Their output will be inserted into P-14 for the standard's next review. The PTC agreed that controls must have a zone of protection or have a neutral hold mechanism on single lever controls.

2. P-14, Mechanical Propulsion Control Systems

- Zone of Protection Insert
 - i. Single lever controls shall have a mechanism to hold the control handle in the neutral position with the throttle at idle. Flybridge and top-mounted controls adhering to the zone of protection are exempt.
 - ii. Primary propulsion throttle and shift controls shall be located to minimize interference from installed accessories. They shall also be located to minimize interference with ingress, egress, dock lines and passengers.

3. A-33, Emergency Engine/Propulsion Cut-off Devices

- Discussed whether a wireless engine kill switch could be worn by a passenger or only should be worn by the operator of the boat. The argument is that only the operator should have the ability to shut an engine, not a passenger.
- Defined a passenger protection device as a system intended to alert the operator of unexpected passenger displacement from the boat. (Falling overboard)
- Revised the passenger protection device requirement to provide only visual and/or audible alarms and eliminated the ability for a passenger to disable the vessel.
- Next action: The standard will go to a limited public review.

4. P-17, Mechanical Steering Systems

- More clearly defined the operational requirements of the axial load test and the tangential load test.
- Next action: The standard will go to consensus ballot/public review.

5. P-18, Cable Over Pulley Systems for Outboard Engines

- This standard will be moved to the Stabilized Category.

- Next action: The standard will go to consensus ballot and then enter the Stabilized Category.
6. P-22, Steering Wheels
 - Removed the Appendix: Recommendation for a Quality Assurance program.
 - Next Action: The standard will go to consensus ballot/public review.
 7. The next meeting of the PTC will be at the call of the chair.

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