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## U.S. COAST GUARD MAXIMUM CAPACITIES LABELS NOT PERMANENT

According to boating standards personnel from the U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Office, Corpus Christi, Texas, several boat manufacturers are affixing the U.S. Coast Guard Maximum Capacities label to their boats in a manner which fails to meet the permanency requirements specified in the regulations. With the exception of the console, the interior of the hull is completely carpeted on several open fishing boat models. The builders are affixing the U.S. Coast Guard Maximum Capacities label on top of the carpeting.

According to 33 CFR 183.27, each U.S. Coast Guard Maximum Capacities label must be:

"(a) Capable of withstanding the combined effects of exposure to water, oil, salt spray, direct sunlight, heat, cold and wear expected in

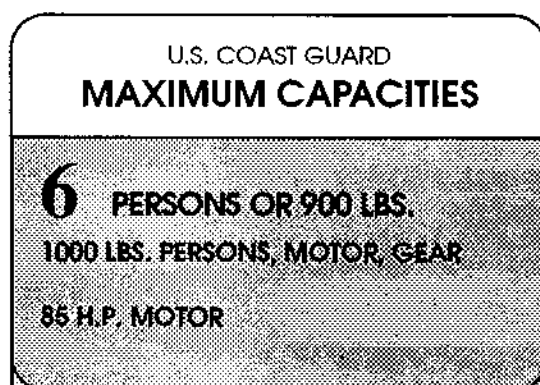
normal operation of the boat, without loss of legibility; and

(b) Resistant to efforts to remove or alter the information without leaving some obvious sign of such efforts."

Obviously, attachment of the label on top of the carpeting makes it easy to remove the U.S. Coast Guard Maximum Capacities label without leaving any evidence that a boat was ever equipped with a capacity label.

Saving a few cents per unit by failing to attach the U.S. Coast Guard Maximum Capacities label to a

part of the boat where it is visible to the operator and which is not covered by carpeting, can be more than offset by a defect notification and recall campaign requiring replacement of capacity labels which do not comply with 33 CFR 183.27(b), because they can be easily removed without leaving any evidence of their removal.



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## VESSEL NUMBERING AUTHORITIES

All undocumented vessels equipped with propulsion machinery must be registered in the State of principal use. A certificate of number will be issued upon registering the vessel. These numbers must be displayed on your vessel. The owner/operator of a vessel must carry a valid certificate of number whenever the vessel is in use. When moved to a new State of principal use, the certificate is valid for 60 days. Check with your State vessel numbering authority for numbering requirements. Some States require all vessels to be numbered. The Coast Guard issues the certificate of number in Alaska; all others are issued by the States or U.S. territories. In Alaska, application forms for Coast Guard registration numbers may be obtained through local post offices or any Coast Guard facility.

The following is a list of vessel numbering authorities:

Boat Registration Supervisor  
Marine Police Division  
Dept. of Conservation and  
Natural Resources  
64 North Union St., Rm 756  
Montgomery, AL 36130

Department of Public Safety  
Pago Pago, AS 96799

Watercraft Registration Supervisor  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
222 West Greenway Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85023

Manager, Registration  
Dept. of Finance and Administration  
PO Box 1272 - Revenue Div.  
Little Rock, AR 72203

Dept. of Motor Vehicles  
2415 First Avenue  
Sacramento, CA 95814-7291

Division of Parks and  
Outdoor Recreation  
13787 South Highway 85  
Littleton, CO 80125

Dept of Motor Vehicles  
Marine Vessel Section  
60 State Street  
Wethersfield, CT 06109

Boat Registrations  
Department of Natural Resources  
and Environmental Control  
Division of Fish and Wildlife  
P. O. Box 1401  
Dover, DE 19903

Metropolitan Police Dept.  
Harbor Section  
550 Water Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20024

Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Law Enforcement  
3900 Commonwealth Blvd  
Mail Sta 660  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000

Boating Registration Unit  
2189 Northlake Parkway  
Suite 108, Building 10  
Tucker, GA 30084

Guam Boating Law Administrator  
Harbor Unit, Guam Police Dept.  
287 West O'Brien Drive  
Agana, GM 96910

Department of Transportation  
Harbors Division  
79 South Nimitz Highway  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Licensing Section  
Dept. of Parks and Recreation  
2177 Warm Springs Ave., Statehouse Mail  
Boise, ID 83720

Department of Conservation  
Division of Law Enforcement  
524 South Second Street  
Springfield, IL 62701-1787

Bureau of Motor Vehicles  
Department of Natural Resources  
IGCN, Room 409  
100 N. Senate Ave  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Licensing Bureau  
Dept. of Natural Resources  
Fish and Wildlife Division  
Wallace State Office Building  
E. Ninth & Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50319-0034

Licensing Division  
Dept. of Wildlife and Parks  
RR2, Box 54A  
Pratt, KS 67124

Title Branch  
Natural Resources and Environmental Cabinet  
Kentucky Water Patrol  
107 Mero Street  
Frankfort, KY 40601

Motorboat Registration  
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
P.O. Box 14796  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-4796

Director, Licensing and Registration  
Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife  
284 State Street  
Augusta, ME 04333

Licensing & Watercraft Registration Services  
Tawes State Office Bldg, B-1  
580 Taylor Avenue  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Department of Fisheries, Wildlife  
and Environmental Law Enforcement  
Division of Law Enforcement  
100 Nashua Street  
Boston, MA 02114

Secretary of State  
Information Services Division  
7064 Crouner Drive  
Lansing, MI 48918

License Bureau, Department of Natural Resources  
500 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Department of Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks  
Post Office Box 451  
Jackson, MS 39205

Motor Vehicle Bureau, Department of Revenue  
Post Office Box 200  
Jefferson City, MO 65105

Registrar's Bureau, Department of Justice  
925 Main Street  
Deer Lodge, MT 59722

Registration Supervisor  
Nebraska Game & Parks Commission  
Post Office Box 30370  
Lincoln, NE 68503-0370

New Hampshire Department of Safety  
Division of Motor Vehicles  
10 Hazen Drive  
Concord, NH 03305

Division of Motor Vehicles  
New Jersey State Police  
Marine Law Enforcement Bureau  
Post Office Box 7068  
West Trenton, NJ 08628-0068

Motor Vehicles Department  
Post Office Box 1028  
Santa Fe, NM 87504-1028

Department of Motor Vehicles  
Empire State Plaza  
Swan Street Building  
Albany, NY 12228

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission  
322 Chapanoke Road  
Raleigh, NC 27603

Licensing Supervisor  
State Game & Fish Department  
100 North Bismarck Expressway  
Bismarck, ND 58501-5095

Registration and Titling  
Division of Watercraft  
Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources  
1952 Belcher Drive - C2  
Columbus, OH 43224-1386

Oklahoma Tax Commission  
409 NE 28th  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Registration Manager  
State Marine Board  
435 Commercial Street, NE  
Salem, OR 97310

Boat Registration Division  
PO Box 1852  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-1852

Director,  
Numbering & Registration  
Department of Natural Resources  
Post Office Box 5887  
Puerta De Tierra, PR 00906

Licensing Unit  
Division of Business Affairs  
Department of Environmental  
Management  
83 Park Street  
Providence, RI 02903

Titling & Registration  
Wildlife & Marine Resources  
Post Office Box 167  
Columbia, SC 29202

Department of Motor Vehicles  
Public Safety Building  
118 W. Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501-2017

Boat Registration  
Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency  
Post Office Box 40747  
Nashville, TN 37204

Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept  
4200 Smith School Road  
Austin, TX 78744

Boating Law Administrator  
Department of Planning & National Resources  
231 Nisky Center  
St. Thomas, USVI 00802

Tax Commission  
Motor Vehicle Division  
1095 Motor Avenue  
Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Department of Motor Vehicles  
Vermont State Police  
Marine Division  
103 South Main Street  
Waterbury, VT 05676

Boating Law Administrator  
Dept of Game and Inland Fisheries  
Post Office Box 11104  
4010 W Broad Street  
Richmond, VA 23230-1104

Titling and Registration Service  
Department of Licensing  
Highway Licenses Bldg PB-01  
Olympia, WA 98504

Division of Motor Vehicles  
Department of Natural Resources  
State Office Building  
1800 East Washington Street  
Charleston, WV 25305

Department of Natural Resources  
Post Office Box 7924  
125 S Webster Street  
Madison, WI 53707

Boating Law Administrator  
Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
5400 Bishop Boulevard  
Cheyenne, WY 82006

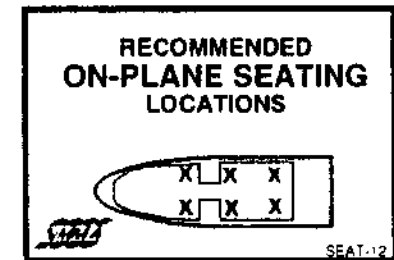
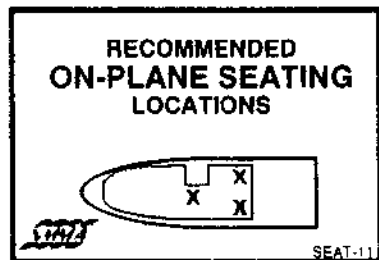
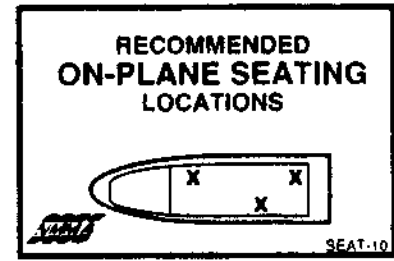
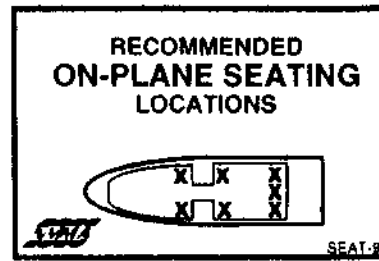
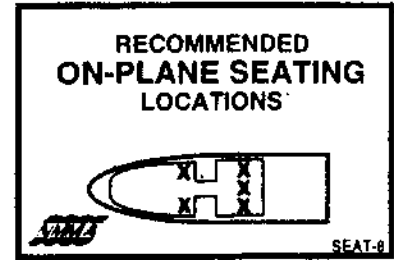
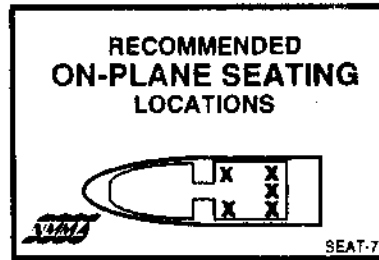
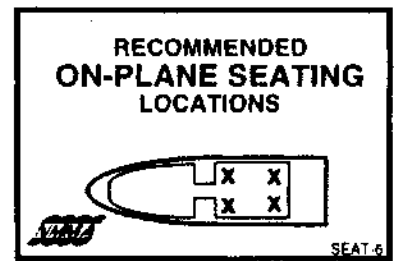
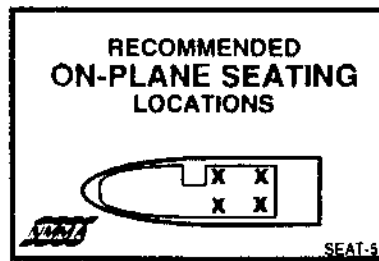
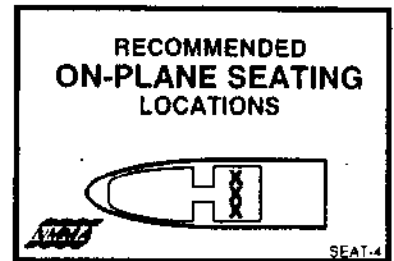
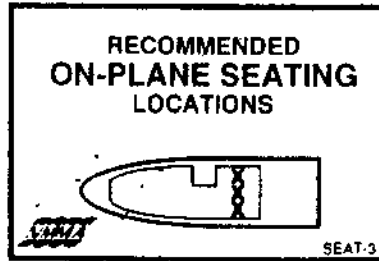
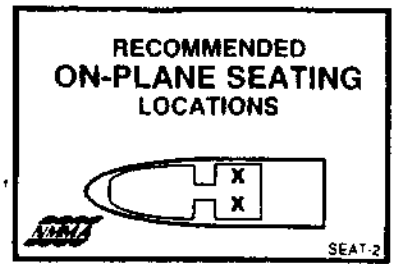
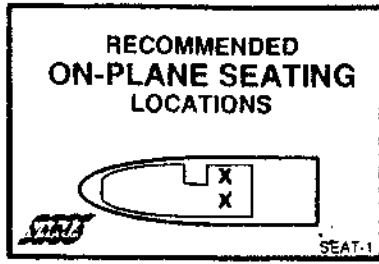
Department of Public Safety  
Civic Center  
Saipan, CNMI 96950

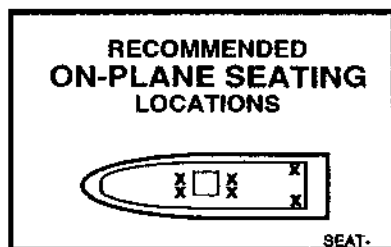
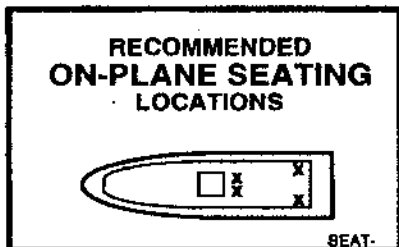
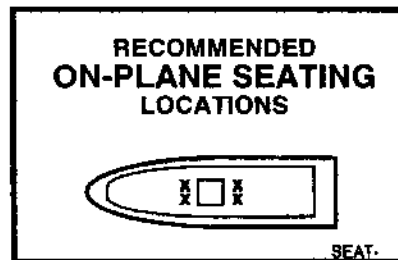
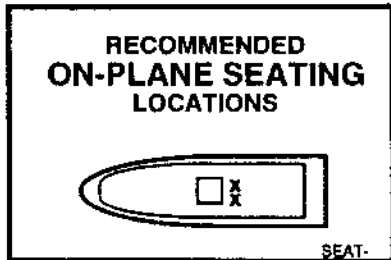
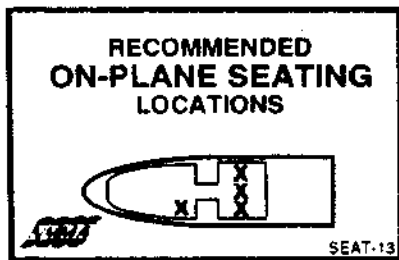
**ABYC OCCUPANT PROTECTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS DESIGNATING ON-PLANE SEATING LOCATIONS**

The law in recent years has tended to place full responsibility for injuries caused by defective products upon the product manufacturer. This is because the manufacturer can design, build and market products in ways that will reduce if not eliminate most unreasonable and unnecessary hazards. In the absence of applicable Federal standards, the best way to assure the safety of purchasers of products you manufacture is to build them in compliance with recognized voluntary industry standards and recommended practices.

From the day it was founded in 1954, the American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC) has been the most broadly based of the standards writing organizations in the recreational boating field in the United States. The majority of ABYC members are associated with the boat manufacturing field in some capacity; however, there are also members from other standards writing organizations, the Coast Guard, Underwriters Laboratories, marine surveyors and insurance companies.

The ABYC Occupant Protection Committee recently proposed that seats in certain boats should be designed for use when the boat is on plane. This group of engineers, marine surveyors and law enforcement persons has proposed that a new label be placed in boats, which pictures the location of designated seating positions. The National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) is supplying the decals to manufacturers who want to begin labeling their boats. Major bass boat manufacturers, including Astro/Procraft, Ranger, Skeeter, Stratos and Tracker, have begun to use the first draft of these labels. More than 50,000 decals have already been distributed.





The ABYC Occupant Protection Committee is encouraging manufacturers to consider the appropriateness of the designated seating position labels in other boat models.

Boat operators often fail to follow safe operating basics, such as sitting in designated seats when the craft is on plane, maintaining a balanced load or allowing an unobstructed view for the driver. It's particularly true of fishermen who like to keep an elevated lookout and use pedestal seats while underway, or keep a line in the water even above trolling speed.

The ABYC committee wants to encourage people to sit in designated seats to reduce the possibility that they might fall or be injured when the boat is traveling at planing speeds. Many boats have casting platforms, storage lockers and other surfaces which are inappropriate for seating when the boat is on plane.

The committee also wants to discourage people from sitting on seat backs and gunwales because of the potential for falls overboard during high speed turns, jumping wakes, and other violent maneuvers.

The "Recommended On-Plane Seating Locations" decals provide an illustration of the boat's interior layout with an "X" to mark where occupants should sit when the craft is on plane. The samples illustrated show the various seating configurations which are currently available for seating capacities of two to seven persons. Custom orders for other configurations are available at an additional cost (call the National Marine Manufacturers Association for an estimate) and in minimum quantities of 1000 decals.

The decals can be placed near the helm or adjacent to the capacity plate. The 2-by 3-inch self-adhesive

decals are made of white vinyl printed black with a mylar overlay to protect from weather, chemicals and gasoline spills.

The ABYC Occupant Protection Committee is continuing to study means to reduce the possibility of persons being injured while boating. In addition to these designated seating labels, the committee is also considering:

- (1) handholds for passengers reboarding from the water;
- (2) rounding or padding sharp corners; and
- (3) ways to reduce tripping, slipping or pinching hazards.

For further information about labels, contact:

Publications Department  
National Marine Manufacturers  
Association (NMMA)  
401 N. Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60611  
Tel: (312) 836-4747.

### Intrusion of Engine Exhaust into the Passenger Areas of Recreational Power Boats

By the John A. Volpe National Transportation System Center, is now available from:

National Technical Information Service  
5285 Port Royal Road  
Springfield, VA 22161  
(703) 487-4650  
50 pages; \$7.50  
Order No.: AD-A254-146-4/ABS

## CHANGES TO RECREATIONAL VESSEL FEE REQUIREMENTS

Under recently enacted legislation the Recreational Vessel Fee (RVF) program will be phased out in three stages and will cease to apply after October 1, 1994:

1. **After October 1, 1992**, the Recreational Vessel Fee ceases to apply to recreational vessels that are 21 feet or less in length.

2. **Effective October 1, 1993**, the Recreational Vessel Fee ceases to apply to recreational vessels that are less than 37 feet in length.

3. **Effective October 1, 1994**, the RVF program ceases to apply to recreational vessels.

No changes have been proposed for recreational vessels already exempt from the Recreational Vessel Fee requirements (public vessels, foreign vessels, etc.) or to the waters where RVF requirements apply. The interpretive rule published on the next page explains the circumstances under which vessels operated by manufacturer or dealer employees for quality control, testing, demonstration, or while enroute to and from display for sale are exempt from the Recreational Vessel Fee

requirements. Monetary amounts for RVF decals also remain unchanged:

Effective October 1, 1992:		
Category	Length	Cost
"A"	Eliminated	
"B"	More than 21 feet to less than 27 feet	\$35
"C"	27 feet to less than 40 feet	\$50
"D"	40 feet and larger	\$100
Effective October 1, 1993:		
Category	Length	Cost
"A"	Eliminated	
"B"	Eliminated	
"C"	37 feet to less than 40 feet	\$50
"D"	40 feet and larger	\$100
Effective October 1, 1994:		
RVF Program Eliminated		

VESSEL LENGTH	DATE RVF CEASES TO APPLY
21 feet or less	OCTOBER 1, 1992
Less than 37 feet	OCTOBER 1, 1993
All Recreational Vessels	OCTOBER 1, 1994

Anyone with questions about the legislative changes to the Recreational Vessel Fee (RVF) law may call the Coast Guard Boating Safety Hotline's toll-free number: 1-800-368-5647.