

Maritime Safety Queensland

BoatSafe Information Bulletin - 001

Operation and certification of BoatSafe ships

Purpose

This BoatSafe Information Bulletin is about changes to certification and operation of Personal Water Craft (PWC) used in connection with the activities of BoatSafe courses in Queensland.

Changes

Ship Certification

As the result of an investigation of a marine incident involving a BoatSafe training ship and a recreationally registered PWC, the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) have determined that the use of a PWC for the training and assessment of anyone other than the owner of the specific PWC being used, is considered a Domestic Commercial Vessel. AMSA have advised any other PWC must be certified and equipped as required by the National Law.

To be clear, a recreationally registered PWC cannot be used for Boatsafe training by anyone other than the registered owner.

Any queries on vessel certification must be directed to AMSA at www.amsa.gov.au or 1800 627 484.

Ship Operations

On review, Maritime Safety Queensland also brings to your attention the requirements of Section 60 of the Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Regulation 2016 (TO(MS)R). This section excludes the supervision, instruction or assessment of an unlicensed person, operating a PWC, from another ship.

The licensed person (trainer) must be able to immediately resume operating the ship. To enable this the trainer must be onboard the ship for RMDL training and assessment, or onboard the PWC for PWCL training and assessment.

Effective immediately any BoatSafe trainer that is training or assessing a licence candidate must be in a position to resume immediate operation of the ship (PWC). The trainer must comply with all requirements of Section 60, TO(MS)R.

BoatSafe Manual

The BoatSafe Manual January 2018 has been superseded effective immediately and replaced by the Boatsafe Manual August 2019.

The BoatSafe Manual August 2019 is now reflective of this determination by AMSA under the National Law.

Note that this requirement is effective immediately and that there is no 'grace' or 'transition' period.

The BoatSafe Manual – August 2019 can be accessed at <https://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/business-industry/Accreditations/Boatsafe-accreditation.aspx>

Further Information

For further information contact the BoatSafe Team – boatsafe@msq.qld.gov.au

Appendix 1

Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Regulation 2016

60 Operation of Queensland regulated ship by unlicensed person

(1) *The master of a Queensland regulated ship must not allow an unlicensed person to operate the ship unless—*

- (a) the unlicensed person is under the direct supervision of the master; and*
- (b) the master is immediately able to resume operating the ship; and*
- (c) if the ship is a personal watercraft—*
 - (i) the master and the unlicensed person are the only persons on board; and*
 - (ii) a kill switch safety lanyard is attached to the master and the personal watercraft.*

Maximum penalty—50 penalty units.

(2) *The master of a Queensland regulated ship must not allow an unlicensed person to operate the ship while the ship is towing someone else by a line attached to the ship, including for example, someone waterskiing.*

Maximum penalty—100 penalty units.

(3) *In this section—*

kill switch safety lanyard means a device that—

- (a) is designed to be attached to a person and a personal watercraft; and*
- (b) if the person is no longer on board, will immediately stop the engine of the personal watercraft.*