

Meeting Report
ABYC Electrical Project Technical Committee
Tampa, Florida
January 13-14, 2014

1. Previous Actions

- ABYC WebSTIR is still working on its searchability function. Will need some beta testers.
- Discussed a continuous review cycle for E-11. ANSI is not in favor of this type of cycle and ABYC will stay on a three year cycle for E-11.
- Readability subcommittee for E-11 is ongoing. NMMA is a member. S/C will look at order, separation and searchability.
- 3-Phase power: Does E-11 need to address this topic? Or should it be a separate standard? Or just reference an existing standard like IEEE-45? The PTC created a S/C to explore the development of a three-phase document covering safety criteria, reference documents and basic understanding: Three phase power systems in recreational boats. E-11 should be amended to acknowledge this new document. Action: Work to be completed by March 15, 2014.

2. Bus Bar Subcommittee

- Looking at rating characteristics of bus bars as sizing, ampacity and voltage rating. Investigate bus bar testing and marking. Restrict work to E-11 scope, i.e., under 50 volts.
- Action: Work to be completed by May 15, 2014

3. TE-30, Electrical Propulsion

- The PTC discussed the ISO standard which was written with TE-30 as its basis. Unfortunately politics of IEC may stop this standard, and industry may be forced to accept a very stringent IEC standard used on diesel electric ships. Nonetheless, the ISO standard moves forward for now.
- The PTC voted to change this document from a Technical Report to a standard.
- Affirmed that the standard addresses voltage less than 1000, both VAC and VDC.
- Ambient engine room temperature remains at 50 degrees C. Use of higher engine room temperatures will be accounted for with appropriate downsizing tables.
- Next actions: Subcommittee work to be completed by mid-February, staff to convert to an ABYC standard format, John Adey and Nigel Calder to include appropriate ISO content to the standard, PTC to review all work during June ISO standards week in Baltimore, and standard sent out for PTC review/comment in September.

4. TE-4, Lightning Protection

- S/C was formed to look at Lightning Protection technology and to recommend whether to keep this document as a technical report or upgrade to a standard. The PTC decided again to retain this document as a Technical Information Report.
- The S/C recommended adding surge protection devices to the report.
- The S/C will investigate the zone of protection concept.
- Added NFPA 780, Installation of Lightning Protection Systems, as a reference.
- Added a new definition of air terminal.
- Added: Standing rigging should not be considered as part of the lightning protection systems.
- Next action: The LP subcommittee to research directed topics and report to the PTC. Due June 15, 2014. Comments to be discussed at an August PTC meeting.

5. NMMA Update

- Boat manufacturers in the Boat & Yacht Certification Program will be beta testing the checklist on ABYC required tests.
- The annual NMMA Compliance Seminar, held in Nashville, was the largest in the past four years. The optional electrical primer, held the morning before the start of the seminar, also continues to be strongly attended.

6. ISO/IEC Update

- The new Recreational Craft Directive is now in its three year acceptance and transitional phase. In the new document, the design categories are no longer named, PWC are now included and recertification of boats are now required to reflect changes to ISO standards.
- There continues to be a conflict with the IEC on who will be developing a standard for electric propulsion.
- In 2014, ISO has 7 ongoing systematic reviews and 10 new reviews to be started. Next year we will have 35 reviews!

7. New Business

- NFPA has issued an RFP to conduct research on in-water shock hazards at marinas. Contract valued at \$30k. ABYC will write and submit a proposal to conduct this work.
- New Standard Idea: Electrical Safety and Testing for Boats in the Marine Environment. This information will be covered in the ABYC certification courses and so the topic is dropped.
- Lithium Ion Batteries: A subcommittee was formed to look at safety and servicing issues with these batteries. (battery management systems, thermal management, fire safety, etc.). This work will be going into E-11. Due: June 1, 2014

8. The next meeting of the Electrical PTC was tentatively set for September 28-29, 2014 probably in Baltimore. The next standards week was proposed to be held mid-January 2015 in Seattle.

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