

MEMORANDUM

TO: NMMA Boat & Yacht Manufacturers

FROM: Robert Newsome, Director, Engineering Standards

SUBJECT: Revised exemption policy for mandatory NMMA Certification for boat manufacturer members

DATE: March 1, 2013

This exemption policy is preceded by and replaces the NMMA Certification exemption policy dated January 1, 2005.

NMMA Boat & Yacht Certification has been required for all NMMA boat manufacturing members dating back to the 2008 model year. The NMMA Boat Manufacturers Division (BMD) has amended the application of mandatory certification for membership, expanding the qualifications that will exempt a member boat manufacturer from being required to be NMMA Certified.

The following exemptions to mandatory NMMA Certification for members shall be recognized and applied to boat building members of NMMA:

1. Manufacturers who build boats greater than 24m LOA, if built to ABS or other NMMA-approved classification society standards.
2. Manufacturers of sailboats without auxiliary engines and/or electric power generating systems, and without navigation lights.
3. Manufacturers whose complete line-up of boats offered for sale in the United States are CE Certified, and that have been inspected by a notified body*.

NMMA Boat and Yacht Certification is required for all NMMA boat member manufacturers who do not qualify for the above mentioned exemptions. With respect to exemptions # 1 and #2, if the manufacturer produces both exempt and non-exempt boats, only the non-exempt boats are required to be NMMA Certified.

Manufacturers of boats qualifying for exemptions shall furnish documentation to NMMA Engineering Standards as proof of the exemption, on an annual basis, at the beginning of each model year. For exemption #3, this shall include copies of the current CE Certificates of all models offered for sale in the US.

Manufacturers utilizing exemption #3 must additionally issue an affidavit annually to NMMA, confirming their compliance with all applicable U.S. Federal Regulations, including requirements of the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Boat manufacturing members, including members exempt from the NMMA Certification requirements, are required to have a Customer Satisfaction Index

(CSI) program in place, proof of which must be supplied with the annual exemption documentation.

Manufacturers who are unable to furnish exemption documentation annually to NMMA shall not be deemed exempt and shall be subject to the membership requirement of the NMMA Certification Program.

**Manufacturers of CE Certified boats who are self-certified (i.e. Module A or Aa) do not meet the inspection criteria, and shall be subject to NMMA Certification requirements for membership.*