

## **Transport Canada Policy Information – School Operator Boat Registration**

Transport Canada has identified towed water sport schools as a group that they will be focusing on to ensure that their on water operations are in compliance with the *Canada Shipping Act 2001 (CSA 2001)*. In accordance with this all boats used for school operations need to be registered as ‘non-pleasure vessels’. Registration numbers for non-pleasure vessels start with C and end in the abbreviation for the province that they are owned or operated in. For example C12345BC.

### ***Why are boats used for school operations considered ‘non-pleasure vessels’?***

Since persons who go on board to take lessons or attend a wakeboard/ski school pay to be on the vessel (or someone else has paid/given money for them to be there), they are “passengers” as defined under the *CSA 2001*. Since the vessel is used as part of a business and those students on board are “passengers”, the vessel is therefore not a “pleasure craft”.

### ***What do I have to do to comply with the Act?***

1. Register your boat as a ‘non-pleasure vessel’ by mailing registration forms to the Ottawa Registrar Office
2. Comply with Section 106 of the *CSA 2001*
  - a. Fill in a Small Vessel Compliance Program (SVCP) Report
  - b. Send completed SVCP Compliance Report to your local Transport Canada Marine Centre
  - c. Display a SVCP blue decal- issued upon successful review of your SVCP package
  - d. Complete annual self-inspection of SVCP compliance.

### ***What does this actually mean for my operation?***

1. Start the process early - Registration takes 1-2 months to process in Ottawa
2. Cost – for one vessel or a fleet is \$50
3. Registration is good for 5 years
4. If boat drivers have only their PCOC (Pleasure Craft Operator Card) – they can only have 6 passengers max. Passengers include those being towed.
5. If you carry more than 6 passengers in your boat – all drivers must have Small Vessel Operator Certificate (SVOP) with Marine Emergency Duties A3 (MED A3) certificate(4.5 day course to get both certificates)Standard First Aid or Marine Basic First Aid (provincial first aid course- 16 hours of training)
6. Additional safety materials are needed in the boat. (i.e. Bigger fire extinguisher, flares,etc)- all summarized in the SVCP checklist.

### ***Important Links***

***Canada Shipping Act 2001*** - specific relevance- the definition of “passenger” as well as sections 46 and 106. <http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-10.15/FullText.html>

**Registration Forms** – <http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/marinesafety/oep-vesselreg-smallcomm-procedures-457.htm>

**SVCP Compliance Checklist** - <http://www.tc.gc.ca/media/documents/marinesafety/TP15111E.PDF>

**FAQs** - <http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/marinesafety/svcp-menu-3638.htm>

**List of local Transport Canada Marine Centres** - <http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/marinesafety/contact-tcc-1576.htm>