



*ABYC H-26 July, 2016*

**Hull Division Standard  
Hull Performance Project Technical  
Committee**

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*ABYC reviews each standard at least every five years at which time it may be reaffirmed, revised, or withdrawn. ABYC welcomes any written comments on the Standards and Technical Information Reports.*

# **ABYC H-26**

## **POWERING OF BOATS**



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*NOTE: Membership on a committee shall not in and of itself constitute an endorsement of ABYC or any document developed by the committee on which the member serves.*

This standard was developed under procedures accredited as meeting the criteria for American National Standards. The Project Technical Committee that approved the standard was balanced to ensure that individuals from competent and concerned interests have had an opportunity to participate.

This standard, which is the result of extended and careful consideration of available knowledge and experience on the subject, is intended to provide minimum performance requirements.

ABYC's Project Technical Committee meetings are open to the public. All contact regarding standards activity, interpretations, or meeting attendance should be directed to the ABYC Technical Department at [comments@abycinc.org](mailto:comments@abycinc.org).

ABYC and its committees do not "approve", "certify", or "endorse" any item, construction, or proprietary device.

### **REQUEST FOR INTERPRETATIONS**

Upon written request, the Hull Performance PTC will render an interpretation of any requirement of the standard. The request for interpretation should be clear and unambiguous. Requests should be presented to the PTC in a manner in which they may be answered in a yes or no fashion.

The committee reserves the right to reconsider any interpretation when or if additional information which might affect it becomes available to the PTC. Persons aggrieved by an interpretation may appeal to the Committee for reinterpretation.

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## H-26 POWERING OF BOATS

Based on ABYC's assessment of the existing technology, and the problems associated with achieving the goals of this standard, ABYC recommends compliance with this standard for all boats, associated equipment, and systems manufactured and/or installed after July 31, 2017.

### 26.1 PURPOSE

This standard is a guide for determining the maximum power for propulsion of outboard boats; evaluating the suitability of power installed in inboard boats; and determining maneuvering speed.

*NOTE: The maximum power determined by using this standard may have an effect on the integrity of the boat structure during use and trailering.*

### 26.2 SCOPE

This standard applies to boats propelled by machinery including catamarans.

#### EXCEPTIONS:

1. Inflatable Boats (see [ABYC H-28, Inflatable Boats](#));
2. Canoes and Kayaks (see [ABYC H-29, Canoes and Kayaks](#));
3. Pontoon Boats (see [ABYC H-35, Powering and Load Capacity of Pontoon Boats](#)).

### 26.3 REFERENCES

The following references form a part of this standard. Unless otherwise noted the latest version of the referenced standard shall apply.

26.3.1 ABYC - American Boat & Yacht Council, Inc., 613 Third Street, Suite 10, Annapolis, MD 21403. Phone: (410) 990-4460. Fax: (410) 990-4466. Website: [www.abycinc.org](http://www.abycinc.org)

- [ABYC H-28, Inflatable Boats](#)
- [ABYC H-29, Canoes and Kayaks](#)
- [ABYC H-35, Powering and Load Capacity of Pontoon Boats](#)
- [ABYC T-5, Safety Signs and Labels](#)

26.3.2 CFR - Code of Federal Regulations and other government publications. Obtain from the Superintendent of Documents, United States Government Information, POB 371 954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954. (202) 512-1800 or FAX (202) 512-2250 Website: [www.access.gpo.gov](http://www.access.gpo.gov) An excerpted edition of the CFR is also available from ABYC, Inc.

33 CFR 183

### 26.4 DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this standard, the following definitions apply.

26.4.1 Boat Speed - velocity of a boat measured in statute miles per hour (MPH).

26.4.2 Catamaran - a hull with two running surfaces separated by a section that is above the running surfaces.

#### NOTES:

1. Central pods are not considered when determining hull type.
2. If the line of intersection of the water surface with the boat at rest and loaded to capacity forms a single closed curve, then the boat must also comply with applicable federal regulations found in [33 CFR](#).

26.4.3 Flat Bottom - a boat with a deadrise angle of two degrees or less when measured amidships.

26.4.4 Hard Chine - a radius or chamfer of ½ inch or less between the side and bottom with an inclusive angle of 110 degrees or less between the side and bottom when measured in the aft quarter.

26.4.5 Length Overall (LOA) - the straight line horizontal measurement from the foremost part of the boat to the aft most part of the boat, measured parallel to the centerline and to the waterline. Attached bow sprits, pulpits, boomkins, rudders, sails, outboard engine brackets, handles, railings, and other similar attached extensions are not included in the measurement. Integrally formed, molded, or welded components and appendages, such as bow