



*ABYC P-14 July, 2016*

**Machinery Division Standard  
Control Systems Project Technical  
Committee**

*The ABYC Standards and Technical Information Reports for Small Craft are the product of a consensus of representatives of government, industry and public sectors. It is intended solely as a guide to aid manufacturers and the marine community in the design, construction, equipage and maintenance of small craft.*

*ABYC reviews each standard at least every five years at which time it may be reaffirmed, revised, or withdrawn.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 P-14**

## **MECHANICAL PROPULSION CONTROL SYSTEMS**



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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 Control Systems 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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## **P-14 MECHANICAL PROPULSION CONTROL SYSTEMS**

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

### **14.1 PURPOSE**

This standard is a guide for the design, construction, testing, and installation of systems for mechanical remote control of the forward and reverse thrust, speed, and trim/tilt of propulsion machinery on boats.

### **14.2 SCOPE**

This standard applies to mechanical remote control systems for boat propulsion machinery and its trim/tilt adjustment mechanisms.

#### **EXCEPTIONS:**

1. *Personal watercraft*
2. *Jet boats*
3. *Hull mounted trim plane systems*
4. *Bow and/or Stern thruster systems*

#### **NOTES:**

1. For electronic propulsion controls see [ABYC P-24, Electric/Electronic Propulsion Control Systems](#).
2. For Jet Boats see [ABYC P-23, Steering and Propulsion Controls for Jet Boats](#).

### **14.3 REFERENCES**

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

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

[ABYC H-2, Ventilation of Boats using Gasoline](#)  
[ABYC H-30, Hydraulic Systems](#)  
[ABYC P-23, Steering and Propulsion Controls for Jet Boats](#)  
[ABYC P-24, Electric/Electronic Propulsion Control Systems](#)

14.3.2 ISO - International Organization for Standardization (ISO), 1, ch. De la Voie-Creuse, Case postale 56, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland. Phone: +41 22 749 02 22 Fax: +41 22 749 01 55 Website: [www.standardsinfo.net](http://www.standardsinfo.net)

ISO 11192, *Small Craft - Graphical Symbols*

14.3.3 SAE International, 400 Commonwealth Drive, Warrendale, PA 15096. Phone: 412-776-4841 Website: [www.sae.org](http://www.sae.org)

SAE J1449, *Small Craft Graphic Symbols*

### **14.4 DEFINITIONS**

For the purposes of this standard the following definitions apply.

14.4.1 Console - the structure that contains the steering helm, shift and throttle controls, switches, and instruments for use in the operation of the boat.

14.4.2 Control station(s) - the location of controlling components for operation of the boat's propulsion system.

14.4.2.1 Single station - the only location in the boat from which steering, shift, and throttle control may be achieved.