



*ABYC H-3 July, 2008*

**Hull Division Standard**

**Hull and Deck Structures 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*ABYC reviews each standard at least every five years at which time it may be reaffirmed, revised, or withdrawn.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 H-3**

# **EXTERIOR WINDOWS, WINDSHIELDS, HATCHES, DOORS, PORT LIGHTS, AND GLAZING MATERIALS**



## **HULL & DECK STRUCTURES PROJECT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

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*This list represents the membership at the time the Committee was balloted.*

**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 and Deck Structures 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.

***H-3 EXTERIOR WINDOWS, WINDSHIELDS, HATCHES, DOORS, PORT LIGHTS,  
AND GLAZING MATERIALS***

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## **H-3 EXTERIOR WINDOWS, WINDSHIELDS, HATCHES, DOORS, PORT LIGHTS, AND ALL GLAZING MATERIALS**

*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 systems and associated equipment manufactured and/or installed after July 31, 2009.*

### **3.1 PURPOSE**

This standard is a guide for the design, construction and installation of exterior windows, windshields, hatches, port lights, doors and all glazing materials on boats.

### **3.2 SCOPE**

This standard applies to all boats.

#### **EXCEPTIONS:**

- 1. Means of exit installed in the hull sides of multi-hull boats.**
- 2. Openings located below a reference line determined by LOA/17 measured from the static floating position (waterline).**
- 3. Installations subject to continuous immersion.**

### **3.3 REFERENCES**

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

3.3.1.1 ABYC - American Boat & 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-1, Field of Vision From the Helm Position](#)  
[ABYC H-4, Cockpit Drainage Systems](#)

3.3.1.2 ANSI - American National Standards Institute, 11 West 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, 11<sup>th</sup> floor, New York, NY 10036. Phone: 212-642-4900. Fax: 212-398-0023. Website: [www.ansi.org](http://www.ansi.org).

ANSI Z 26.1, *Safety Code for Safety Glazing Materials for Glazing Motor Vehicles Operating on Land Highways*

### **3.4 DEFINITIONS**

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

- 3.4.1 Compartment - Any watertight or weathertight space with access from the exterior of the boat provided by a hatch, door or port light.
- 3.4.2 Cockpit - Any deck area that is lower than the adjacent weather deck of the boat and exposed to the elements.
- 3.4.3 Dead Light - A secondary watertight closure fitted to a portlight or hatch.
- 3.4.4 Deck Light - A glazed component or plate fixed on the boat structure.