

The American Boat & Yacht Council, Inc.

# ABYC

**Setting Standards for Safer Boating**

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**TY-28 BOAT LIFTING AND STORAGE**

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## ***TY-28 BOAT LIFTING AND STORAGE***

### ***BACKGROUND***

This technical information report suggests guidelines for the hauling, launching, handling, and storage of boats on land to reduce the risk to personnel and damage to the boat or equipment. This report is limited in that it cannot cover all conceivable variables. The reader is cautioned not to depend solely on it to prevent hauling and storage accidents. There are OSHA requirements for lifting equipment contained in 29 CFR, parts 1919 - 1925.

### ***INTENT***

This technical information report covers the use of straddle lifts and forklifts for hauling boats, and cradling guides with respect to the loads placed on the hull. It also addresses the boat manufacturer's responsibility to provide certain information on handling and storage of boats out of the water.

### ***REFERENCED ORGANIZATIONS***

ABYC - American Boat & Yacht Council, 3069 Solomons Island Road, Edgewater, MD 21037 410-956-050

29 CFR, parts 1919 - 1925 - Obtain the Code of Federal Regulations and other government publications from the Superintendent of Documents, United States Government Information, POB 371 954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954 202-512-1800 or fax 202 512 2250.

NFPA - National Fire Protection Association - One Batterymarch Park, PO Box 9101, Quincy, MA 02269-9101

OSHA - Occupational Safety and Health Administration, US Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20004

### ***DEFINITIONS***

Cribbing - Stacked blocking arranged with each layer approximately perpendicular to the adjacent layer(s).

Concrete block - Hollow masonry block.

### ***LIFTING, HAULING AND LAUNCHING - GENERAL***

Each boat hauling/launching facility should develop a procedure or checklist appropriate to the scope of its operation. Before operating lift equipment

- a. check and determine applicability of federal, state, or local requirements;
- b. follow the lift manufacturer's requirements and recommendations;
- c. check the boat manufacturer's owner's manual, if available, for lifting and blocking instructions, limitations, or restrictions.

If personnel is to be on or under a boat in a lift, the load should not be supported solely by the lift equipment. The boat should be supported by blocking or some other means to provide protection to personnel in the event of a failure in the lift system.

Lift the boat considering its strong and weak points. See this report's section titled, [BOAT BUILDER'S RESPONSIBILITIES](#). Lifting, pre-haul, and/or launch inspection should include, but not be limited to, the following:

- a. Have access to boat interior;
- b. Ensure that all hull penetrations are closed or secure.
- c. Check boat for bilge water before lifting. Excessive quantities of bilge water can shift, changing the balance of the load;
- d. Check for thru-hull appendages such as knotmeters and stabilizers, rub, spray, and splash rails, so that they are not damaged by lifting equipment;