ISAF Racing Rules Question and Answer Service



Q&A 2009-001

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Question:

A supplier claims that application of its product "...has reduced the residual resistance, associated with drag viscous resistance, by 6%." Once applied, this "wax" will last about 60-80 hours of sailing.

Is the use of this product is allowed under the racing rules?

Answer:

Yes.

Rule 53 prohibits the specific action of releasing a substance into the water while racing. Using a preparation prior to racing that is removed by the water contact with the hull does not break rule 53.

Consideration of class rules may result in different answers.

Note:

- The name of the product has been removed from this Q&A and is not an endorsement of any product, rather an interpretation of rule 53 in regards to surface finishes that erode.
- This answer has been prepared in consultation with the ISAF Technical Department.