Submission: SR06-15

Offshore Special Regulation 3.29.1 (b)

Communications Equipment – VHF transceiver output power

A submission from Yachting Australia

Purpose or Objective

Provide simpler, outcomes based safety regulation.

Proposal

Amend 3.29.1(b) to read:

3.29.1 (b) Permanently installed VHF transceivers shall:

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- i Have a minimum rated output power of 25 W.
- ii Have a mast head antenna on boats with a mast height above the water of 11 m or more.
- iii Have transmission and reception with a base station at least 8 nautical miles distant.
- iv Be tested in accordance with the Notice of Race.

Current Position

3.29.1 (b)

When the marine radio transceiver is VHF:

i it shall have a rated output power of 25W

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- ii it shall have a masthead antenna, and co-axial feeder cable with not more than 40% power loss MoMu0,1,2,3
- the following types and lengths of co-axial feeder cable will meet the requirements of OSR 3.29.1 (b)(ii): (a) up to 15m (50ft) type RG8X ("mini 8"); (b) 15-28m (50-90ft) type RG8U; (c) 28-43m (90-140ft) type 9913F (uses conventional connectors, available from US supplier Belden); (d) 43-70m) 140-230ft type LMR600 (uses special connectors, available from US supplier Times Microwave).

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Reason

- 1. The current regulation is complex and requires a high degree of technical knowledge to understand.
- 2. The technical requirements in the current regulation do not provide a practical outcome.
- 3. The proposed regulation will result in the boat being able to demonstrate that its communication equipment can transmit and receive in accordance with the requirements of the event.
- 4. The proposed regulation provides the boat simpler outcomes based tests.