

Submission: **SR01-10**

Offshore Special Regulations 4.03

Material of Plugs for Through Hull Openings

A submission from the US SAILING Association

Proposal

4.03 Soft ~~Wood~~ Plugs

Soft wood **or polyurethane foam** plugs, tapered and of the appropriate size, shall be attached or stowed adjacent to the appropriate fitting for every through-hull opening.

Current Position

4.03 Soft Wood Plugs

Soft wood plugs, tapered and of the appropriate size, shall be attached or stowed adjacent to the appropriate fitting for every through-hull opening.

Reason

Innovations in polyurethane foam manufacturing have produced tapered polyurethane foam plugs that will function as efficiently as soft wood plugs in through-hull applications. Testing has demonstrated that these plugs hold in excess of 3 meters of continuous head pressure for an extended period of time.

Referring to Appendix G, Part C 4.2.3, polyurethane foam plugs will conform to irregular shaped holes in the hull and can be used to mitigate and minimize flooding.