

## **DISCUSSION TOPIC FOR COMMITTEE DISCUSSION**

### **Category 5 Companionway Requirements**

A discussion topic from the Chairman of Special Regulation Sub-committee

#### **Proposal**

To review the current position.

#### **Current Position**

In November 2008 OSR 3.08.3 Hatches and Companionways was amended, this now permits Category 0 to 4 boats with a transom opening aft to sea to have a companionway sill lower than the local sheerline if the arrangement meets the relevant ISO standard.

Appendix J – Category 5 repeats the pre-November 2008 text of 3.08.3 and has not been amended in line with the current Category 0 to 4 text. This means the requirements are more onerous for Category 5 than for Category 0 to 4.

The problem comes when designs suitable for Categories 0 to 4 are not permitted to compete under Category 5 where such arrangements are not allowed.

#### **Reason**

The Committee are invited to review whether this situation is correct.

While this may not be a problem as Cat 5 are generally sports boats and keelboats like the Melges 24 / J-80 etc. where having a higher sill height due to the increase in possibility of large amounts of water in the cockpit is a reasonable precaution. However the current situation was not specifically addressed by the Committee in November 2008 and was not a specific decision.