

**Offshore Special Regulations**

**OSR 3.08 Hatches & Companionways**

A submission from Australian Sailing

**Proposal**

- 3.08 Hatches & Companionways**
- \*\*** 3.08.1 Hatch covers forward of the maximum beam station shall not open toward the interior of the boat, except hatches in the side of a coachroof or ports having an area of less than 0.071 m<sup>2</sup> (110 in<sup>2</sup>)
- \*\*** ~~3.08.2 Hatches not conforming with 3.08.1 shall be clearly labelled and used in accordance with the following instruction "NOT TO BE OPENED AT SEA"~~
- \*\*** 3.08.3 A hatch, including a hatch over a locker shall be:
- (a) permanently attached and capable of being firmly shut immediately and remaining firmly shut in a 180° capsize
- Mo0,1,2,3,4 (b) above the water when the boat is heeled 90°
- Mo0,1,2,3,4 A boat may have a maximum of two hatches on each side of centerline that do not conform to the requirement in b), provided that the opening of each is less than 0.071<sup>2</sup> m (110 in<sup>2</sup>)
- \*\*** 3.08.3 Hatches not conforming with 3.08.1 and 3.08.2 shall be clearly labelled and used in accordance with the following instruction "NOT TO BE OPENED AT SEA"

**Current Position**

- 3.08 Hatches & Companionways**
- \*\*** 3.08.1 Hatch covers forward of the maximum beam station shall not open toward the interior of the boat, except hatches in the side of a coachroof or ports having an area of less than 0.071 m<sup>2</sup> (110 in<sup>2</sup>)
- \*\*** 3.08.2 Hatches not conforming with 3.08.1 shall be clearly labelled and used in accordance with the following instruction "NOT TO BE OPENED AT SEA"
- 3.08.3 A hatch, including a hatch over a locker shall be:
- \*\*** (a) permanently attached and capable of being firmly shut immediately and remaining firmly shut in a 180° capsize
- Mo0,1,2,3,4 (b) above the water when the boat is heeled 90°
- Mo0,1,2,3,4 A boat may have a maximum of two hatches on each side of centerline that do not conform to the requirement in b), provided that the opening of each is less than 0.071<sup>2</sup> m (110 in<sup>2</sup>)

Reasons

1. Many production boats have hatches or ports which do not conform to 3.08.3.
  2. The ISO standard relating to windows is ISO 12216. The standard does not appear to place any limit on the number of windows. The structural requirements for windows varies with where they are located in the boat.
  3. The ISO standard for stability is ISO 12217. The standard specifically excludes openings from being considered as downflooding points if they are marked 'KEEP SHUT WHEN UNDER WAY'.
  4. The provisions under 3.08.2 only applies to 3.08.1 and not 3.08.3.
  5. The amendment allows a boat with hatches that do not conform to 3.08.1 and/or 3.08.3 to race.
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