Submission: SR02-18

Offshore Special Regulations

OSR 3.23 Bilge Pumps and Buckets

A submission from the Chairman, Special Regulations Sub-committee on behalf of the working party of Will Apold, James Dadd, Chuck Hawley, Christophe Gaumont and Per Boymo

Purpose or Objective

To specify requirements for pumps for damage control.

Proposal

Amend regulation:

	3.23	**Emergency Pumps, Bilge Pumps and Buckets**
**	3.23.1 a)	two strong buckets, each with a lanyard and of at least 9 l (2.4 US Gal) capacity
Mo0,1,2	3.23.1 b)	two permanently installed manual bilge pumps, one operable from above, the other from below deck
Mo3Mu0,1,2	3.23.1 b)	one permanently installed manual bilge pump
Mo4	3.23.1 b)	one manual bilge pump
Mu0,1,2,3,4	3.23.1 c)	provision to pump out all watertight compartments (except those filled with impermeable buoyancy).
**	3.23.2	All required permanently installed bilge pumps shall be operable with all cockpit seats, hatches and companionways shut and with permanently installed discharge pipe(s) of sufficient capacity
**	3.23.3	Bilge pumps shall not be connected to cockpit drains and shall not discharge into a Closed Cockpit
**	3.23.4	Bilge pumps shall be readily accessible for maintenance and for clearing out debris
**	3.23.5	All removable bilge pump handles retained by a lanyard
MoMu0,1,2	3.23.6	either fixed or portable pump to remove egress water from any compartment. This pump shall have: • a minimum rated capacity of 225 l/min (0 head) (3600 GPH) • be operated by battery, main engine powered or a separate gas or diesel motor • sufficient hose to discharge directly overboard or into the cockpit. A combination of permanently installed and portable pumps may be combined to meet the above requirement.

Current Position

	3.23	**Bilge Pumps and Buckets**
**	3.23.1 a)	two strong buckets, each with a lanyard and of at least 9 l (2.4 US Gal) capacity
Mo0,1,2	3.23.1 b)	two permanently installed manual bilge pumps, one operable from above, the other from below deck
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Reason

1. To specify a pump minimum requirement for emergencies.

2. Next to hull integrity, pumps are a vessel's first – and often only – line of defence against sinking. They can give the crew extra time when taking on water – time that can be spent repairing the leak, donning life-jackets, or making a distress call.

3. ISO 15083:2003- Small craft Bilge-pumping systems specifies requirements for pumping or alternative means designed **to remove normal accumulations of bilge water** for small craft. The standard specifies that the capacity of each pump shall not be less than 15 l/min for boats with LH 6m – 12m, and 30 l/min over 12m LH. The volumes per minute shall be achieved when the pump is subject to a back pressure of 10kPa.

4. Note: Conversion factors 1 US Gallon/Hour = 0.063 Litres/Minute. 1 Imperial Gallon/Hour = 0.076 L/min 225 l/min = 2970 Imperial Gallon/Hour = 3566 US gallon/Hour