Offshore Special Regulation 3.06.4 Exits-Monohulls

Escape hatches for inverted yachts

A submission from the Sten Edholm, Special Regulations Sub-Committee

Purpose or Objective
To propose a new regulation to include escape hatches for oceanic races.

Proposal

New text

3.06.4 Yachts launched after January 2015 shall have an emergency escape hatch that can be used if the yacht has capzised into an inverted position. The emergency escape shall have minimum measurements as of 3.06.2.

Current Position
None

Reason
Multihulls already have similar regulations, e.g. OSR 3.07.2.i.

This follows recommendations from the US Sailing Report on the Rambler accident at Fastnet Race 2011. The US report only refers to Appendix K for yachts with Movable and Variable ballast. However, keels may also brake on yachts with fixed keels.

The initial date shall give possibility for designers and manufacturers to develop suitable designs.