



SHIP SAFETY BULLETIN

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Ship Safety Bulletins provide safety-related information to the marine community.

All bulletins are available at: www.tc.gc.ca/marinesafety

Subject: Interim Registration Guidance for Human-powered Vessels, Small Sailing Vessels, and Small Vessels Fitted with Propulsion Motors Less Than 10 hp (7.5 kW)

Definition

For the purposes of this policy, a “human-powered vessel” is a vessel that is propelled by no other means of propulsion than humans, such as canoes or kayaks.

Background

Section 46 of the *Canada Shipping Act, 2001* (CSA 2001), which came into force on July 1, 2007, requires that **all** vessels, other than pleasure craft or those registered in another country, be registered in either the Canadian Register of Vessels or in the Small Vessel Register. Those vessels that are solely used for pleasure are not required to register under the CSA 2001.

Guidance

Registration for all human-powered vessels (such as canoes or kayaks), as well as for all small sailing vessels and all small vessels fitted with propulsion motors less than 10 hp (7.5 kW) will not be required. Registration will continue to be required for commercial river rafts, government vessels, or other vessels in future which require registration for safety reasons.

Vessel owners or operators must still comply with construction, safety, and pollution requirements set out in the *Canada Shipping Act, 2001*.

Keywords:

1. Human-powered vessels
2. Small Vessel Register
3. Canoes or kayaks

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Owners of affected commercial vessels automatically receive Bulletins.

Should the owners of such a vessel wish to register their vessel, they are free to do so voluntarily. A new simplified registration process has been created for human-powered vessels for those who wish to register voluntarily.

Voluntary Registration

Through the new simplified registration process for human-powered vessels, Transport Canada will:

- accept a single application form for a vessel or a fleet of vessels;
- charge a \$50.00 fee for a single vessel or a fleet of vessels, valid for five years; and
- issue a single registration number to a single vessel or a fleet of vessels.

Owners registering a fleet of human-powered vessels shall also provide:

- the number, length or approximate length, and type of vessels in the fleet, including the Hull Identification Number (HIN), if available.

The Chief Registrar must be informed:

- of a change in ownership of a vessel or a fleet; and
- if the vessel or fleet has been disbanded.