



SHIP SAFETY BULLETIN

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Subject: Update on Interim Registration Guidance – [Ship Safety Bulletin No. 01/2011](#)

Changes to Registration Requirements and Registration Process for Small Non-Pleasure (Commercial) Vessels under Interim Registration Guidance 01/2011:

- Human-Powered Vessels
- Small Sailing Vessels
- Power-Driven Vessels with Motors <10HP (7.5kW)
- Commercial River Rafts
- Small Government Vessels
- Assigned Formal Tonnage (AFT) **NEW**

This bulletin replaces Ship Safety Bulletin No. 01/2011

Purpose

This bulletin replaces Ship Safety Bulletin (SSB) No. 01/2011 for small non-pleasure (commercial) vessel owners, commercial river raft operators and federal and provincial government departments.

Background

On March 17, 2011, the Minister of Transport announced an interim registration guidance ([Ship Safety Bulletin No. 01/2011](#)) explaining that owners did not need to register:

- Human-Powered Vessels, e.g., canoes or kayaks;
- Small Sailing Vessels; and
- Small Power-Driven Vessels (under 10 hp/7.5 kW).

Please Note

Owners of small commercial vessels that are not registered must still comply with all safety regulations under the *Canada Shipping Act, 2001*.

Keywords:

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

Questions concerning this Bulletin should be addressed to:

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What's New

- Effective April 2, 2012, the interim registration guidance now applies to small government vessels of the same classes as exempted non-government vessels;

Note: Recent amendments to the *Canada Shipping Act, 2001* (CSA, 2001) authorize exemptions from the registration requirements in subsection 46.(1). *The Vessel Registration and Tonnage Regulations* are being amended to implement this change.

- A simplified registration process is in place for those who need or wish to register these vessels in the Small Vessel Register. For details on registration requirements, please visit
 - [Interim Voluntary Registration of Small Government Owned Human-powered Vessels, or Sailing Vessels and Small Power-driven Vessels with Propulsion Motors Less Than 10 horsepower \(7.5 kW\)](#)
 - or
 - [Registration of Government Owned Vessels with propulsion motors 10 horsepower \(7.5 kW\) or more](#)
- Commercial river-rafts must still be registered. However, a simplified process is in place to allow the registration of a fleet of commercial river-rafts in the Small Vessel Register with one application form for a flat rate fee of \$50; and
- Owners can register more than one vessel of the same type as a fleet in the Small Vessel Register with one application form and a flat \$50 fee. This allows vessel owners to manage their inventory of vessels, such as adding or removing a vessel from a fleet, without having to inform the Chief Registrar.

Notes to fleet owners

- Vessels in the same fleet must be of the same type and sub-type (e.g., human-powered such as canoe or workboat with a motor <10hp).
- Fleets may be registered in the Small Vessel Register only.
- A “fleet” consists of anywhere between two and 100 vessels. When a fleet exceeds the maximum range assigned, the owner must register a new fleet.
- One Certificate of Registry and one Official Number (ON) will be assigned to each fleet. The Certificate is renewable every five years.
- Each vessel in the fleet must be marked with the ON and a suffix, e.g., C123456ON-1, C123456ON-2.

To learn more about:

- Registration requirements, please visit <http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/marinesafety/oep-vesselreg-smallcomm-menu-542.htm>
- Fleet owners' responsibilities, please refer to Section 75.01 of the *Canada Shipping Act, 2001* at: <http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-10.15/page-22.html#h-38>.

Assigned Formal Tonnage (AFT) *NEW*

When registering a monohull or multihull vessel of 12m in length or less, you may now establish the gross tonnage of your vessel by any one of these methods:

- Assigned Formal Tonnage (AFT) based on the length of the vessel
- Simplified Method of Calculation (Form 4A or Form 4B)
- Measurement performed by a Tonnage Measurer regardless of length

To learn how to establish the gross tonnage of your vessel please refer to FAQ no. 10 at: <http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/marinesafety/oep-vesselreg-smallcomm-menu-542.htm#10> .

Future changes

You will find any future changes or updates on vessel registration at: <http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/marinesafety/oep-vesselreg-menu-728.htm>

Contact Information

Vessel Registration Office through the North American toll free number: 1-877-242-8770.

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