



For Immediate Release
09-09

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ABYC Announces First in a Summer Series of Webinars ***“Hot Docks, Hot Boats & Electric Shock Drowning”***

June 3, 2009, Annapolis, MD: Based on the overwhelming positive feedback from its initial educational webinar held in April, the American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC) will be offering a summer series of technical education webinars aimed at sharing safety-related topics of importance to those involved in the marine industry. This first summer webinar is titled “Hot Docks, Hot Boats & Electric Shock Drowning,” which will be held on Thursday, June 18, 2009 from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. ET.

“This is a safety issue that everyone, especially on-water officers should know about,” stated Skip Burdon, ABYC President. By attending this webinar, participants will learn what is a “hot dock” or a “hot boat” and how can you establish which is putting potentially deadly AC current into the water? How can this possibly result in an Electric Shock Drowning? What is an Electric Shock Drowning? Attendees will receive a complete overview of the problem of electric shock drowning. They will also hear about the electrical origins of the problem, learn about what signs to look for, how to identify the problem and elements of how to test and detect the problem. There will also be a section on preventative steps that can be taken to keep a boat from becoming ‘hot’ using the ABYC standards.

Kevin Ritz, ABYC’s Pacific Northwest Regional Representative will be presenting this webinar. Kevin is also the co-owner of Cruising Essentials, LLC in Scappoose, OR. Kevin is an ABYC Certified Master Technician and is ABYC Certified in Electrical, Corrosion and ABYC Standards.

The webinar is directed toward on-water law enforcement officers, administrators, insurance personnel, surveyors, technicians and other interested parties. The cost is \$49. Space is limited and registration is required. Registration information can be found on the ABYC web site, <http://www.abycinc.org/calendar/eventDetails.cfm?eventID=329>.

ABYC has been developing, writing and updating the safety standards for boat building and repair in the United States for 55 years. ABYC is actively involved with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) as well as education and certification programs for marine technicians. These standards are available on CD-ROM, online (*Web-STIR* and the *ABYC Standards Powered by Rulefinder.net*) and in printed form. Membership and general information can be requested by visiting the ABYC Web site at www.abycinc.org.

