



**For Immediate Release**  
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## **ABYC Announces First Person to Earn All Eight ABYC Certifications**

**August 12, 2008, Annapolis, MD:** The American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC) is pleased to announce that Dwight Escalera of Wakefield, RI is the first individual to earn all eight American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC) marine technician certifications. ABYC has been an industry leader in the development of safety standards for boatbuilding and repair for over 50 years. It established the certification program over 15 years ago to provide a measure of competence in the areas of Marine Electrical, Marine Systems, Diesel Engines, Gasoline Engines, Marine Corrosion, ABYC Standards Certification, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration, and Composite Boat Builder.

These voluntary certifications were created to assure the boating public that an individual understands and can apply ABYC Standards and generally accepted boat building practices. Over the past three years, Escalera has taken each of the multi-day courses and passed each certification exam, which are good for five years.

Skip Burdon, President of ABYC said, “We want to congratulate Dwight on being the first person in the world to earn all eight ABYC Certifications.” Burdon continued, “ABYC course of study is comprehensive and the tests are challenging.” “When someone like Dwight completes the process and becomes certified, they can feel confident in their ability to apply ABYC Standards as a tool for initial installation or for troubleshooting problems. Eight certifications is truly an achievement!”



Dwight commented, “I love boats and have spent a lifetime learning how to operate and build them. When I settled on boat building as my career, I set a personal goal of earning all ABYC certifications to assure that I have an understanding of all facets of boat building. It’s a great feeling to have reached that goal and to be able to offer my customers the highest level of confidence in my knowledge and abilities to build, repair and survey boats that these certifications represent.”

Dwight’s passion for the marine industry can be seen in his roles as a marine surveyor, boat building instructor and industry compliance consultant through Executive Marine Services. Dwight is a member of the ABYC Galvanic Isolator Project Technical Committee (PTC) and takes a keen interest in the ABYC Hull Piping PTC. ABYC has

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18 PTC's that are comprised of industry leaders who develop and maintain the ABYC Standards. Dwight is also a member of the ISO technical committee that looks at the quality of large yacht paint coating appearances (TC8/SC12/WG5).

ABYC has been developing, writing and updating the safety standards for boat building and repair in the United States for over 50 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](http://www.abycinc.org).