



# European Marine Surveys

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## Marine & Yacht Surveyors & Marine Consultants

### About the Boat Safety Scheme

The BSS was jointly established in 1997 by the Environment Agency and British Waterways to promote safety on the inland waterways in respect of boats, their installations and components. Meeting these safety Standards in order to obtain a navigation licence became a requirement at the same time. To date, some 45,000 powered craft have successfully met these requirements.

An independent review of the scope of the BSS requirements took place during 2000 and recommended that British Waterways and the Environment Agency re-publish the full set of Check List items split into essential safety or environmental requirements and best safety practice recommendations. Extensive consultation with the boating public, groups representing these people and professional and trade bodies concerned with craft construction and safety standards contributed to this re-published list.

### How the BSS Works

All boats wishing to be licensed for navigation on British Waterways and most Environment Agency waters must have a valid Boat Safety Scheme certificate.

Once a boat has been examined and a pass certificate issued, you should send your pass certificate along with the necessary licence application paperwork to the relevant navigation authority. Your examiner will keep a copy of the examination report, will give you a copy for your records and send a copy to the Boat Safety Scheme office.

Examiners will, from 1 April 2002, also complete an 'Appliance Status Record' which logs relevant details on the model, make and condition of all appliances on your boat. This Record will then be checked and amended accordingly at the time of the next examination to show any changes in the condition or operation of the appliance(s)

The Record will also help to reduce inconsistencies between examiners when inspecting and testing the same appliance(s) over a period of time. It also helps record any modifications to existing appliances or new installations on board the boat, and gives you a document that you can show to any prospective buyer in the future.

### Comprehensive Reference:

#### Boat Safety Scheme Home Page

[http://www.boatsafetyscheme.com/site/Home\\_1.asp](http://www.boatsafetyscheme.com/site/Home_1.asp)