

**National V-Department &
D11NR
2014 VESSEL EXAMINER
REQUIRED ANNUAL WORKSHOP**



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TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

from N/Train

- SOP VSC DECAL ORDER PROCEDURE
- NEW VSC MANUAL and VSC Exam due 2nd quarter 2014
- New VSC Decal planned for 2016
- VSC REPORTING WEBSITE-www.usbi.org/vsc.php
- New MARPOL placard unavailable with no ETA
- Grant pending for Kayak/Canoe I.D. labels
- 7038/MT-2 New Examiner Reporting
- New examiner initial qualification can not include kayaks or canoes-power and sailboats only.



2013 D11NR VSC FACTS

- D11NR performed 8,377 VSC's, the most in PAC AREA, but only 66.2% of 2012
- D11NR leads the nation with the highest number of VSC's per examiner with 28 per examiner!
- D11NR leads the nation with most examiners over 500 VSC's: William W. Burns 1-7, Michael J. Lauro 10-2, and Steven B. Perez 11-1
- D11NR leads the nation with most flotilla's over 300+ VSC's (9)- Flotilla's 1-7, 3-9, 5-2, 5-5, 6-4, 10-2 (#3 nationally), 10-3, 10-5, and 11-1(#9 nationally)
- Division 10 is the #4 producing Division nationally!



2014 VE WORKSHOP

As a Vessel Examiner you play an important role in helping keep our waterways a safe place for the recreational boater.

Your dedication in helping educate the recreational boater in boating safety and ensuring they carry and know how to use the required equipment aboard their vessel is an important responsibility and should not be taken lightly!

We appreciate your time and dedication to

BOATING SAFETY

D11NR Vessel Examiners Save Lives!



Workshop Objectives

- *This workshop is designed as a refresher for Vessel Examiners, to review current and new requirements, and provide practical and relevant knowledge to assist in serving the boating public*
- *The workshop focuses on four areas: Process and Procedures, Conducting the VSC, Paddle Craft, and Operational Facilities*



Workshop Contents

- ***The workshop consists of four sections:***
 - VSC Process and Procedures
 - Conducting the Vessel Safety Check
 - Paddle Craft
 - Operational Facilities
- ***At the end of each section there is a brief quiz with answers based on the material presented***
- ***The quiz can be answered as a group and will serve to reinforce the material covered in each section***



VSC Process and Procedures



The VSC Program

- *The Vessel Safety Check (VSC) program helps to achieve voluntary compliance with federal and state recreational boating safety laws regarding the carriage of safety equipment*
- *It raises boater's awareness of safety issues through one-on-one education by Vessel Examiners*
- *It is intended to serve as a "prevention through education, outreach, and volunteer compliance" activity*



Where Can We Perform Vessel Safety Checks?

- *VEs may perform VSCs on boats anywhere in the 56 states and territories of the United States*
- *You should contact the nearest Auxiliary or Power Squadrons to familiarize yourself with local or state rules and regulations, and to coordinate your efforts with those of the District in which you are visiting*



Maintaining Certification

- *To remain certified, a VE must complete at least five VSC's each calendar year*
- *If any VE fails to perform the annual certification procedures within the last five years, they must complete two satisfactory VSC's under the supervision of a certified VE in order to regain their certification, and then complete at least five VSC's for that calendar year, but not on paddlecraft.*
- *If a VE fails to perform the annual certification procedures for five consecutive years, that member will have to meet the full initial qualification to regain qualification*



Assignment to Duty

FC/VFC/FSO-VE Notification:

- *Before going out to do a VSC, be sure to let your FC, VFC, or FSO-VE know by phone, email, or other means*
- *This is important to satisfy the “assignment to duty” requirement in the event of an accident, injury, or damage*



Uniforms

- *Although not required, the VE should make every attempt to wear a proper uniform when conducting a VSC. Check what uniform is approved in your area.*
- *Don't refuse to conduct a VSC if you are asked and in civilian attire.*
- *Please do not wear boots when boarding a vessel, expect to have to remove your shoes!*



VSC Courtesy

- *As a courtesy to the vessel owner, ask permission to come aboard; say: “Permission to come aboard?” and ask if you need to remove your shoes.*
- *Be cautious that nothing you are carrying or wearing can cause damage to the vessel you are examining*
- *Do not accept gratuities while there; water, soda, etc.*
- *If you have an appointment – be on time. If for any reason you have to cancel, contact boater as soon as possible*



Pre-Examination

Working with the boat owner in advance provides:

- **More exposure to the boater**
- **More opportunity to discuss boating safety**
- **More opportunity to solicit interest in the Auxiliary**



Bottom Line

- *PRIOR to your visit, for more information, encourage the boat owner to visit:*
<http://resource.d11nuscgaux.info/public/ve.html>
or
<http://www.safetyseal.net>
- *The bottom line is to do what it takes to create safe boats and safe boaters*



Supervised Vessel Safety Checks

- Any VE performing supervised vessel safety checks (VSC), whether in conjunction with Initial Qualification or Recertification, must perform the supervised VSC on power/sailing vessels only, no paddle crafts
- Documented on Form 7012 and NOT Form 7012A (Paddle Craft VSC)
- Report activity on ANSC 7038 per policy
- Once member is certified, paddle craft VSCs may be performed



The VSC Decal

- *Display of the VSC decal provides peace of mind that, at the time of the Vessel Safety Check, the vessel carried the proper safety equipment*
- *It does NOT imply that the boater may not be stopped and checked by law enforcement*



Awarding the VSC Decal

- **Only the current year VSC decal should be displayed**
- **Old decals should be removed; however, VE/Owner may place new decal directly over old VSC decal**
- **VSC decal must be affixed immediately after examination by the VE or by the operator in the presence of the VE**
- **Affix in a location not to interfere with or obscure the operator's view**
- **DO NOT place on a plastic window!**



VSC Decal Placement

with the boaters permission:

- **On the lower forward corner of a portside window, being careful not to block someone's vision.**
- **3” behind the portside state registration numbers**
- **If no window is available, to the dashboard or the back of a seat**
- **Decals should only be affixed to permanently installed equipment**



Quiz

[1] If an owner or operator has consented to a VE performing a VSC on his/her vessel, what can be expected?

- [a] A one-on-one education about boating laws, safety equipment and operation of a vessel in a safe manner
- [b] A guarantee against a boarding by the Coast Guard or local/state marine authorities, as long as the VSC decal is current
- [c] A minimum of a 10% discount on the boat owner's marine insurance policy
- [d] A free survey of the boat, saving the owner a substantial amount of money by not having to hire a marine surveyor



Answer

[1] If an owner or operator has consented to a VE performing a VSC on his/her vessel, what can be expected?

[a] A one-on-one education about boating laws, safety equipment and operation of a vessel in a safe manner



Quiz

[2] Because of unusual circumstances, you were unable to conduct five VSCs last year. What happens now?

- [a] You have to meet the full initial qualification criteria to regain your qualifications
- [b] You have to do ten this year to keep your qualifications and to make up for last year
- [c] You have to do at least two VSCs under supervision of a certified VE to regain your qualifications and then five for this year
- [d] You can't regain your qualifications. Once you miss a year you're too rusty to be an effective VE



Answer

[2] Because of unusual circumstances, you were unable to conduct five VSCs last year. What happens now?

[c] You have to do at least two VSCs under supervision of a certified VE to regain your certification and then five for this year



Quiz

[3] A vessel owner consents to a VSC on a vessel that has a prior year's decal on it. The vessel passes and is eligible for a decal. What should you do?

- [a] Since only one VSC decal is permitted to be displayed at any time, remove or have the owner remove the old decal and apply the new one
- [b] Save the new decal for your next VSC and just give the owner the Form 7012 or 7012A
- [c] Place the new decal next to the old one. Owners like to display decals for all the years they've been examined
- [d] Place the new decal on the starboard window so that it will not interfere with or obscure the operator's view



Answer

[3] A vessel owner consents to a VSC on a vessel that has a prior year's decal on it. The vessel passes and is eligible for a decal. What should you do?

[a] Since only one VSC decal is permitted to be displayed at any time, remove or have the owner remove the old decal and apply the new one



Quiz

[4] You are on vacation in another state that's part of a different district. Should you bring your VSC materials with you?

[a] No, don't bother. You won't get credit outside your district

[b] No, don't bother. The decals are numbered and allocated for only your specific district.

[c] Yes, but you can only examine vessels that are registered in your home district. Therefore, make sure you look for those with registration letters representing your state

[d] Yes, a qualified Vessel Examiner may conduct a VSC in any state or territory of the United States



Answer

[4] You are on vacation in another state that's part of a different district. Should you bring your VSC materials with you?

[d] Yes, a qualified Vessel Examiner may conduct a VSC in any state or territory of the United States



Quiz

- [5] You happen to be visiting a friend at a local marina. You're wearing casual civilian clothes. A boat owner sees you and asks if you would perform a safety check on the boat. What should you do?**
- [a] Apologize to the owner and explain that you can't do a VSC if you're not in proper uniform
 - [b] Even when you're not in uniform or prescribed dress, a VE should not delay or refuse a request for a VSC
 - [c] Explain that you're off-duty and entitled to some "down time" too. Tell the owner to catch you another time
 - [d] Since activity only counts if you're in uniform, don't waste your time or the boat owner's time



Answer

[5] You happen to be visiting a friend at a local marina. You're wearing casual civilian clothes. A boat owner sees you and asks if you would perform a safety check on the boat. What should you do?

[b] Even when you're not in uniform or prescribed dress, a VE should not delay or refuse a request for a VSC



Quiz

[6] You have just completed a VSC on a vessel that passes and is eligible for a decal. However, the vessel does not have a windshield. What do you do now?

[a] Place the new decal on the dashboard or back of a seat; someplace that will be readily visible

[b] Give the owner or operator the decal and let them decide where they would like it

[c] Since you may only place a decal on the window or windshield, you never should have done a VSC on this boat in the first place

[d] Save the new decal for your next VSC and just give the owner the Form 7012 indicating their boat earned a decal



Answer

[6] You have just completed a VSC on a vessel that passes and is eligible for a decal. However, the vessel does not have a windshield. What do you do now?

[a] Place the new decal on the dashboard or back of a seat; someplace that will be readily visible



Conducting the Vessel Safety Check



Registration Numbers

- *Here is where many of us begin the Vessel Safety Check and where a large number of boats fail to meet federal requirements*
- *Numbers must be properly spaced, in PLAIN BLOCK CHARACTERS of not less than three inches in height, and in contrast to the color of the vessel*



Registration Numbers

- *Permanently attached to each side of the forward half of the vessel*
- *Example of correct format:*

CF 1234 AB or CF-5678-AB

NOTE: Spaces or hyphens between letter and number groupings must be equal to the width of a letter other than “I” or a number other than “1”



Documented Vessel

- *Every documented vessel must have:*
 - An official number
 - Marked by any “PERMANENT METHOD”
 - Cannot be obliterated or obscured
- *Must have the official number permanently affixed in block type Arabic numerals preceded with the letters “NO.”*
 - Not less than 3 inches in height
 - On some clearly visible interior integral “structural” part of the vessel



Documented Vessel

- *A documented vessel hull display must:*
 - Have the name and hailing port of the vessel together in one place on the hull (usually on the stern)
 - Be in letters not less than 4 inches in height
 - Be clearly readable, but font is not specified



Life Jackets

- **Boaters must carry one wearable life jacket for each person aboard**
- **Life jackets must be:**
 - **Coast Guard approved**
 - **In good and serviceable condition**
 - **Appropriate size for the intended user**
 - **Be readily available (i.e. not in locked compartment or manufacturer's plastic bag)**
- **Additionally**
 - **All vessels 16 feet or over (except canoes and kayaks) must also carry one throwable type life saving device**
 - **Throwable devices must be “immediately available” for use and not stored in a plastic bag or a compartment**



Life Jackets

- *The life jacket label is the best reference to determine if it is the appropriate size, type, and whether it must be worn to count*
- *USCG approved inflatable devices:*
 - Authorized for use by persons 16 years of age or older
 - Require regular maintenance
 - Must have a full cylinder and all status indicators green



Visual Distress Signals

- *When considering VDS requirements, the applicable term is “coastal waters”*
- *Coastal waters include:*
 - The Great Lakes (excluding Lake St. Clair)
 - The territorial seas
 - And those waters connected directly, up to the first point where a body of water is less than two miles wide
- *When conducting a VSC on any waters identified as “Coastal” (see above), ensure the Area of Operation on Form 7012 is marked as “Coastal”*



Visual Distress Signals

- *Visual Distress Signals (VDS) are specifically defined in the Code of Federal Regulations and include only USCG approved devices limited to:*
 - Pyrotechnics
 - Approved orange flag with black square/circle (day signal only)
 - Approved electric distress light flashing SOS (night signal only)
- *All VDS need an approval number displayed and the pyrotechnics must not be beyond the listed expiration date*



Visual Distress Signals

- *The following vessels are not required to carry day signals, but must carry night signals when operating from sunset to sunrise:*
 - Recreational vessels less than 16 feet
 - Vessels participating in organized events
 - Open sail boats less than 26 feet and not equipped with propulsion machinery
 - Manually propelled vessels



Fire Extinguishers

- *A fire extinguisher does not have to be mounted to meet federal minimum legal requirements or receive a VSC decal, unless there is a state requirement to the contrary*
- *Contrary to prior guidance, there is never an occasion where it is permissible to shake or smack a fire extinguisher. This could lead to compaction of material in the discharge tube*
- *Check the age of the portable extinguisher. If it is older than 10-years, recommend a replacement.*



Sound Producing Devices

- *Navigation Rules require sound signals to be made under certain circumstances. For the vessels we examine - ALL we need to remember is:*
 - **EVERY** vessel must carry a horn or an acceptable type whistle audible for ½ mile
 - **NONE** of the size vessels we examine are now required to carry a bell



Navigation Lights

- Recreational vessels are required to display navigation lights:
 - **Between sunset and sunrise**
 - **Periods of reduced visibility**
- Vessels under machine propulsion are considered power-driven vessels
- Even if the owner/operator does not intend to go out after sunset, they must carry the prescribed lights for their vessel type



Pollution Placard

- *All vessels 26 feet and larger with a machinery compartment must display an oily waste Pollution placard*
- *Placard must be fixed in a conspicuous place in machinery spaces or at the bilge pump control station*



MARPOL Trash Placard

- *All vessels 26 feet and larger require a MARPOL placard, however there are no funds in place or a vendor for the replacement placard.*
- *MARPOL placard must be displayed in a prominent location*
- *Examiners should take the opportunity to educate boaters that new requirements are being developed and they will need to comply when available*



Marine Sanitation Devices

- *All recreational vessels with installed toilet facilities MUST have an operable marine sanitation device (MSD) on board*
- *Any capability for overboard discharge must be disabled or secured. Acceptable methods include:*
 - **Padlocking overboard discharge valves in the closed position**
 - **Closing overboard discharge valves and removing handle**
 - **Locking door to space enclosing the toilet**



Navigation Rules

- *The operator of a vessel 12M (39.4 feet) or greater is responsible for having and maintaining a copy of the Navigation Rules on board when operating on U.S. inland waters*
- *NEW-An electronic copy (cell phone, tablet, laptop, etc.) is acceptable as long as the boater can present the required rules when examined*
- *Remember, a complete copy of the rules is not required while on inland waters, only the Inland rules are required to be carried when shoreward of the line of demarcation*



Overall Vessel Condition

- *Vessel must be free from fire hazards, in good condition, with bilges reasonably clean and visible hull structure generally sound”*
- *Battery cables should be securely connected, terminals covered, and battery secured to prevent movement (battery requirements do not apply to boats powered by outboard motors)*
- *Automotive parts NOT installed on engine*
- *Engine HP does not exceed capacity plate*
- *Kill switch operational if installed*
- *Decks free of hazards*



Marine Radios

- *Vessels carrying a marine VHF radio must monitor channel 16 (Calling and Distress channel):*
 - When their radio is turned on
 - When not transmitting or receiving on another channel
- *Advise boaters with DSC radios the importance of obtaining, registering, installing an MMSI number and interfacing with a GPS*



Accident Reporting

- ***The operator of any recreational boat is required to file a Boating Accident Report if the boat is involved in an accident that results in:***
 - Loss of life
 - Personal injury which is beyond first aid
 - Damage to the boat and other property \$2,000 or more (amount may vary in some states)
 - Complete loss of boat



Quiz

[1] An acceptable method for preventing the inadvertent discharge from an installed toilet is:

- [a] A Type I, II or III MSD if under 65'**
- [b] A dump valve**
- [c] A Type III MSD to recirculate waste**
- [d] A lock on the head door**



Answer

[1] An acceptable method for preventing the inadvertent discharge from an installed toilet is:

[d] A lock on the head door



Quiz

[2] You are checking the Life Jackets (PFDs) and find they have a total of four new (still in the manufacturer's plastic package) wearable Life Jackets (PFDs) by the helm. If everything else passes, can you issue a decal?

- [a] No, wearable life jackets (PFDs) have to be readily accessible. Keeping them in the manufacturer's plastic bag or in a locked compartment does not meet this requirement**
- [b] Yes, since they have plenty of life jackets**
- [c] Yes, but remind them to use any spare Type II as though it were a Type IV**
- [d] No, Type II Life Jackets (PFDs) have to be immediately available. If they are in a locked compartment that means they're not immediately available**



Answer

[2] You are checking the Life Jackets (PFDs) and find they have a total of four new (still in the manufacturer's plastic package) wearable Life Jackets (PFDs) by the helm. If everything else passes, can you issue a decal?

[a] No, wearable life jackets (PFDs) have to be readily accessible. Keeping them in the manufacturer's plastic bag or in a locked compartment does not meet this requirement



Quiz

[3] In checking a vessel's electrical installation, which of the following would be cause for withholding the VSC decal regarding marine batteries?

- [a] Battery mounted on transom**
- [b] Battery not installed in “battery box”**
- [c] Battery terminal connections loose**
- [d] Battery not appropriate size**



Answer

[3] In checking a vessel's electrical installation, which of the following would be cause for withholding the VSC decal regarding marine batteries?

[c] Battery terminal connections loose



Quiz

[4] A recreational vessel less than 65 feet MUST monitor channel 16 if a VHF-FM radio is carried onboard.

- [a] False, it is at the discretion of the operator
- [b] Only if it is an Operational Facility
- [c] Only if required to have a FCC license
- [d] True, only if the radio is operating and not being used for communications



Answer

[4] A recreational vessel less than 65 feet MUST monitor channel 16 if a VHF-FM radio is carried onboard.

[d] True, only if the radio is operating and not being used for communications



Quiz

[5] Which vessels must carry a throwable life jacket?

- [a] All vessels 16 feet or over (except canoes and kayaks)**
- [b] All vessels**
- [c] Only those vessels actively participating in races and yachting events**
- [d] None of the choices**



Answer

[5] Which vessels must carry a throwable life jacket?

[a] All vessels 16 feet or over (except canoes and kayaks)



Quiz

[6] Which of the following is not an acceptable USCG approved Visual Distress Signal (VDS):

- [a] Orange Flag with black square/circle**
- [b] Waving of arms**
- [c] Electric flashing SOS distress light**
- [d] Red flares**



Answer

[6] Which of the following is not an acceptable USCG approved Visual Distress Signal (VDS):

[b] Waving of arms



Paddle Craft



Registration and HIN

- *Registration only required if a particular state requires that the paddle craft be registered-CA, NV, and UT do not.*
- *Hull Identification Number (HIN) may be found on starboard side at the stern. However, some stand up paddleboards, canoes and kayaks may not have a Hull Identification Number*
- *Note, law enforcement officers may be concerned with boats not having a HIN or other permanent markings for purposes of identifying stolen property. However, not required to award decal*



Sound Producing Device

- *Navigation Rules require sound signals to be made under certain circumstances*
- *EVERY vessel must carry a horn or an acceptable type whistle audible for ½ mile, in addition you are not required to provide one.*
- *Ideally attached to life jacket for easy access*



Life Jackets

- *Boaters must carry one wearable life jacket for each person aboard*
- *Life jackets must be:*
 - **Coast Guard approved**
 - **In good and serviceable condition**
 - **Appropriate size for the intended user**
- *The life jacket label is the best reference to determine if it is the appropriate size, type, and whether it must be worn to count*



Life Jackets

- *Kayaks and canoes are exempt from carrying a throwable type PFD that is required for other boats 16 feet or longer*
- *Though not required, life jackets should be worn when underway (a life jacket can save your life, but only if you wear it)*



Overall Vessel Condition

- *Check for evidence of hull leaking*
- *Hatch covers, deck lines, and bungee cords should be in good condition and secure.*
- *Check bulkheads to make sure there are no holes, cracks, etc.*
- *Some paddle craft will not have bulkheads and will require an airbag or foam block inside the stern and/or bow to help with flotation*
- *Check the paddle/oar shaft and blade to make sure there are no visible cracks or fractures*



Navigation Lights

- *If operating between sunset and sunrise, or in restricted visibility, a vessel under oars shall have ready at hand:*
 - An electric torch (flashlight) or lighted lantern showing a white light
 - Exhibited in sufficient time to prevent collision



Visual Distress Signals

- *If operating on coastal waters between sunset and sunrise, all paddle craft are required to carry visual distress signals suitable for night use:*
 - Pyrotechnics (red flares, hand-held or aerial)
 - Approved electric distress light flashing SOS
- **All VDS need an approval number displayed and the pyrotechnics must not be beyond the listed expiration date**



State and/or Local Requirements

- *Check your state's laws and/or local laws on any of the safety check requirements as they may vary*
- *For example, depending on where the operator is paddling, some states may require that the operator carry daytime Visual Distress Signals aboard the vessel*



Open Water and Other Discussion Recommendations

Convey need and use for the following:

Open Water

- Pump or bailer
- Spray skirt
- Spare paddle/oars
- Compass/GPS/ Charts
- Tow/Boat Recovery
- VHF Marine Radio

Other

- Dress appropriately/Carry ID
- File Float Plan
- Food and Water
- Assess the risk
- High Visibility Clothing
- Emergency Kit
- Accident reporting
- Anchor Light



Additional Suggestions

- **Always dress for immersion rather than for the air temperature. All paddle craft operators will eventually capsize, it is just a matter of when. Never be caught unprepared!**
- **For safety, always paddle in a group**



Placement of VSC Decal

- *Place the decal where it is easily seen*
- *Preferably on the port side forward of amidships*
- *Make certain you affix it, or it is affixed in your presence*



Quiz

[1] What lights are required to be displayed by a paddle craft at night?

- [a] No lights are required for a paddle craft
- [b] At a minimum it must display side lights forward like a sailing vessel
- [c] A white light readily available to make the paddle craft visible to other nearby vessels
- [d] The same lights as a PWC



Answer

[1] What lights are required to be displayed by a paddle craft at night?

[c] A white light readily available to make the paddle craft visible to other nearby vessels



Quiz

[2] Having met all the legal requirements makes a paddle craft safe?

[a] True

[b] False



Answer

[2] Having met all the legal requirements makes a paddle craft safe?

[b] False (but you will be better prepared to handle situations that may come up)



Quiz

[3] The HIN is not readable any longer on the paddle craft. Do you award a decal?

[a] Yes; however, you need to explain to the owner that law enforcement officers may be concerned since they could suspect that the vessel may be stolen. However, the HIN is not a requirement for our decal

[b] No, the HIN is required for us to award a decal



Answer

[3] The HIN is not readable any longer on the paddle craft. Do you award a decal?

[a] Yes; however, you need to explain to the owner that law enforcement officers may be concerned since they could suspect that the vessel may be stolen. However, the HIN is not a requirement for our decal



Quiz

[4] It is fine to paddle alone when there is no current or bad weather.

[a] True

[b] False



Answer

[4] It is fine to paddle alone when there is no current or bad weather.

[b] False



Quiz

[5] Paddlers need to dress...

- [a] for immersion
- [b] always in a bathing suit in case of a capsize
- [c] with a wide brim hat and sun glasses
- [d] light to avoid heat stroke



Answer

[5] Paddlers need to dress...

[a] for immersion (all paddle craft operators will eventually capsize, it is just a matter of when. Never be caught unprepared!)



Quiz

[6] Visual distress signals are required for all paddle craft.

[a] True

[b] False, they are not required to carry day signals, but when operating on coastal waters must carry night signals between sunset and sunrise, and when required by state laws



Answer

[6] Visual distress signals are required for all paddle craft.

[b] False, they are not required to carry day signals, but when operating on coastal waters must carry night signals between sunset and sunrise, and when required by state laws



Operational Facilities



OPFAC Inspection and Offer For Use Form

- *Forms ANSC 7003 and 7008 (PWC) are used to report a vessel facility (OPFAC) inspection and offer for use, as well as to report changes in the status of a facility*
- *If the owner sells or trades the facility and acquires a new one, this form is used to remove the old facility and enter the new one into the database*



OPFAC Inspections

Only a certified Auxiliary Vessel Examiner (VE) may conduct vessel facility (OPFAC) inspections. VEs must conduct facility inspections in accordance with current National and District standards

To assist in preparing for OPFAC inspections, additional guidance (including a separate addendum and checklist) can be found at www.safetyseal.net under the “Job Aid Kits” link or on the D11NR VE website: <http://rbsafety.d11nuscgaux.info/ve/ve.html>

Potential severe consequences for “coffee table” inspection



Multiple Owner Facilities

- *The member holding the largest percentage of ownership uses their 7 digit member ID number*
- *If this owner is not an Auxiliarist then “NON AUX” should be entered*
- *If the facility has multiple owners and is being offered for use, the “Assent and Authorization for Use” information must be attached*



Corporate Owned Facilities

- *On corporate owned facilities the member ID number should be left blank*
- *The “Corporate Resolution” authorizing offer for use should be attached, as outlined in the Auxiliary Operations Policy Manual*



Auxiliary Owned Facilities

- *Auxiliary owned facilities are offered for use in a slightly different manner than vessels owned by individuals or corporations*
- *It is important for the VE to consult with the AUXMAN, Operations Manual, and their individual Office of the Director on the proper completion of form 7003/7008 for Auxiliary owned assets*



The Need For Accuracy

- *The Vessel Facility Inspection and Offer For Use Forms are official USCG required document and must be filled out accurately and completely*
- *Examples which might result in the Vessel not being accepted for use include (but not limited to):*
 - Incomplete or missing information
 - Failure to have signatures and initials in ALL required areas
 - Missing required equipment
 - Incorrect coding
 - Not having accompanying documentation when required
 - Some DIRAUX offices may offer “suggested” check sheets to assist the VE in ensuring the form is properly completed.
 - Missing required photo.



Authorized Coxswains

- *The owner of an Auxiliary Facility must specify which Coxswains are authorized to operate the facility both when the owner is on board and not on board*
- *The owner may also indicate that no one else is authorized to operate the facility*



District Unique Requirements

- *Coast Guard DIRAUX's may differ in OPFAC equipment requirements and in some aspects for completing the forms; therefore, the VE should be familiar with their AOR (ex. Supplying a photo of the facility, a photocopy of the facility registration, etc.)*



Special Equipment Requirements

- *Specific equipment requirements for all Auxiliary surface facilities are found on the Vessel Facility Inspection and Offer for Use forms; however, individual DIRAUX's may require additional equipment based on the operational needs of their Area of Operation*



Examples of Specific Equipment Requirements-from Form 7003

- ✓ *Extra fenders to be used for side tow operations*
- ✓ *Light and flexible heaving lines onboard and should have a weighted end*
- ✓ *Two (2) extra PFDs over the legal requirements*
- ✓ *One (1) extra portable fire extinguisher over the number required for Facility size-need not be mounted*



Common Errors

- *On Form 7003 and 7008, Sections III & VII, ensure the owner(s) initial the form on the appropriate lines*
- *OPFAC markings are in accordance with the Operational Policy Manual COMDTINST M16798.3E (Chapter 3)*
- *Section III must be initialed, whether trailerable or not*
- *No VSC decal is affixed to facility (OPFACs do not display a VSC decal)*



Credit for Inspection

- *Report passed OPFAC inspections on ANSC Form 7038 under Vessel Facility Inspections*
- *Report failed OPFAC inspection as a regular VSC on ANSC Form 7038*
- *Put member name and number in “Comment” line*



Quiz

[1] Auxiliary Facility Inspections:

- [a] Can only be done by an Auxiliary Vessel Examiner
- [b] May be done by any Vessel Examiner (Auxiliary or USPS)
- [c] Must be done on the water only
- [d] Must be approved by the Flotilla Commander first



Answer

[1] Auxiliary Facility Inspections:

[a] Can only be done by an Auxiliary Vessel Examiner



Quiz

[2] Which reference(s) should be consulted for Auxiliary owned assets:

- [a] AUXMAN
- [b] DIRAUX
- [c] The Operations Manual
- [d] All of the above



Answer

[2] Which reference(s) should be consulted for Auxiliary owned assets:

[d] All of the above (AUXMAN, DIRAUX, Operations Manual)



Quiz

[3] If there are multiple member owners of a facility being offered for use, the 7-digit member ID entered on the 7003/7008 is:

- [a] The member holding the largest percentage of ownership**
- [b] The member holding the highest elected/appointed office**
- [c] The member who will be designated coxswain**
- [d] Any member who is a part owner**



Answer

[3] If there are multiple member owners of a facility being offered for use, the 7-digit member ID entered on the 7003/7008 is:

[a] The member holding the largest percentage of ownership



Quiz

[4] Operational Facilities must carry how many extra fire extinguishers above the number required for the facility size:

- [a] 2 extra portable fire extinguishers
- [b] 1 type B-I and 1 type B-II extra fire extinguishers
- [c] 2 B-II type extra fire extinguishers
- [d] 1 extra portable fire extinguisher



Answer

[4] Operational Facilities must carry how many extra fire extinguishers above the number required for the facility size:

[d] 1 extra portable fire extinguisher



Quiz

[5] The DIRAUX in each district has the authority and responsibility to require additional equipment be carried aboard OPFACs to meet the needs of their Area of Responsibility.

[a] True

[b] False



Answer

[5] The DIRAUX in each district has the authority and responsibility to require additional equipment be carried aboard OPFACs to meet the needs of their Area of Responsibility.

[a] True



Congratulations!

- *You have successfully completed the 2014 Required Vessel Examiner Workshop*
- *To receive credit in AUXDATA, attendance must be recorded on Workshop Mission and Attendance Report (ANSC Form 7039)*
- *The instructor will complete the form (check box #5 in Section 1) and submit per policy*



Presented by:

National Director (DIR-V)

National Deputy Director (DIR-Vd)

D11NR DSO-Vessel Examination

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