Comparison of Survival and Safety Requirements in European Union for Recreational Craft Inspections. A Spanish Case Study

Statistical data shows that a large number of maritime accidents are related to recreational craft. For instance, in Spain, more than fifty percent of the emergencies are related to pleasure boats at sea. Recreational craft marketed in the EU must comply with harmonized technical safety and environmental requirements defined by Directive 94/25/EC, as amended in 2003. On 28 December 2013, the new recreational craft directive 2013/53/EU was published in the Official Journal of the European Union. EU Member States have until 18 January 2016 to amend their national legislation and transpose the new directive. The current directive 94/25/EC as amended by directive 2003/44/EC will be repealed on 18 January 2016, after the full application of the new text. Although this directive, there is not a clear coordination and equivalence among the EU countries according to the survival and safety equipment compulsory for recreational crafts. The main purpose of this paper is to analyze and compare the types of survey / inspections to be carried in pleasure craft (non-commercial use), periodicity and required safety equipment in some member states of the European Union. A case study of Spain is presented. From the results obtained, we can make clear that in the European Union there is a lack of coordination in this area and indicate the need to unify a common pattern in inspections and survival and safety requirements of recreational boats in the EU.

Słowa kluczowe
Spanish Case Study, Recreational Craft, European Legislation, Survival and Safety Requirements, Surveillance Safety Requirements, Survival Requirements, Craft Inspections

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[10] Orden FOM/1144/2003, se regulan los equipos deseguridad, salvamento, contra incendios, navegación prevención de vertidos por aguas sucias, que deben llevar a bordo las embarcaciones de recreo, 28 April 2003, Spain.
[13] Real Decreto 1434/1999, se establecen los reconocimientos e inspecciones de las embarcaciones de recreo para garantizar la seguridad de la vida humana en la mar y se determinan las condiciones que deben reunir las entidades colaboradoras de inspección, 10 Septiembre 1999, Spain.