



BSS Essential Guide

Contents

Chapter 1: Introduction

1.1	What is the Boat Safety Scheme?	2
1.2	History	2
1.3	The current Scheme	3
1.4	The navigation authorities' legal requirements	3
1.5	The BSS Essential Guide, essential reading	6
1.6	Fitting out or making changes	6
1.7	Meeting the requirements	6
1.8	Advice checks	7
1.9	How to use the guide	7
1.10	More information	9
1.11	Where do the requirements apply?	9
1.12	Documentation	9
1.13	Scope of the BSS examination	10
1.14	Recreational Craft Directive (RCD)	10
1.15	Part-built boats	11
1.16	Buying a boat?	12
1.17	Updates to this guide?	12
1.18	Booking (an examination)	13
1.19	Preparing your boat	14
1.20	At the end of the examination	14
1.21	Warning notes and dangerous boat notifications	15
1.22	BSS contact details	16

Chapter 2: Permanently installed fuel systems and fixed engines

2.1	Fuel filling points	5
2.2	Fuel filling lines	8
2.3	Fuel tank vents	10
2.4	Fuel tank vent outlets	12
2.5	Fuel tank design and condition	14
2.6	Fuel gauges	18
2.7	Petrol fuel system electrical bonding	20
2.8	Fuel tank connections	21
2.9	Fuel tank balance pipes	23
2.10	Fuel feed, return, and on-engine lines	25
2.11	Fuel line connections	29
2.12	Fuel filters	30
2.13	Fuel shut-offs	32
2.14	Carburettors	34
2.15	Engine installation	35
2.16	Steam engines	37
2.17	LPG engines	38

Chapter 3: Electrical systems

3.1	Battery storage	3
3.2	Cable specifications and condition	6
3.3	Cable location	8
3.4	Cable connections	10
3.5	Fuses and circuit-breakers	12
3.6	Battery isolators	14
3.7	Two-wire systems	18

Chapter 4: Electrical propulsion systems

4.1	Electrically propelled boats	3
4.2	Electrical propulsion motor and controller	3
4.3	Battery charging equipment	5

Chapter 5: Outboard and portable combustion engines and portable fuel systems

5.1	Portable fuel systems	3
5.2	Portable petrol tanks	6
5.3	Spare fuel containers	9
5.4	Outboard and portable combustion engines	11
5.5	LPG-fuelled outboard propulsion engines	14

Chapter 6: Fire Extinguishing and Escape

6.1	Portable fire extinguishers	3
6.2	Fire blankets	8
6.3	Emergency escape	9

Chapter 7: Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) systems

7.1	LPG cylinder storage	5
7.2	LPG cylinder locker and housing LPG-tightness	7
7.3	LPG cylinder locker drains	10
7.4	Protection of LPG cylinders and components	15
7.5	Cylinder locker openings	17
7.6	LPG system shut-off valves	18
7.7	LPG high-pressure system components	19

7.8	LPG pipework, joints and connections	23
7.9	LPG hoses and hose connections	28
7.10	Portable appliance connections	33
7.11	Appliance isolation valves	35
7.12	Testing for LPG system tightness	37

Chapter 8: Cooking, heating, refrigerating and lighting appliances

8.1	Appliance fuel and power supply	4
8.2	LPG or paraffin fridges and petrol engine boats	6
8.3	Installation of appliances in petrol engine spaces	8
8.4	Fire risks from appliance installations	9
8.5	Fire risks from appliance flues and exhausts	11
8.6	LPG catalytic heaters	12
8.7	Flame supervision devices	12
8.8	LPG appliance burner operation	13
8.9	Ventilation	15
8.10	Appliance flues	17

Chapter 9: Pollution prevention

9.1	Engine/gearbox oil leak collection	3
9.2	Sanitation system	5

Appendices:

- Further Contact Details
- Glossary