businesscompanion
trading standards law explained

Recreational craft (boats etc)

In the guide

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This guidance is for England, Scotland and Wales

A recreational craft is any boat, of any type, regardless of its means of propulsion; its hull must be no less than 2.5 m and no more than 24 m, and it must be intended for sports and leisure purposes.

As a manufacturer, importer or distributor of recreational craft there are certain obligations you must fulfil before you place the recreational craft, personal water craft (such as jet skis) or propulsion engine on the market. A recreational craft must meet all the essential requirements of the Recreational Craft Regulations 2017 when it is placed on the market.

All recreational craft are required to have the CE / UKCA mark.

Office for Product Safety and Standards guidance

The Office for Product Safety and Standards has produced guidance on the Recreational Craft Regulations 2017, which can be found on the GOV.UK website.

Trading Standards

For more information on the work of Trading Standards services - and the possible consequences of not abiding by the law - please see 'Trading Standards: powers, enforcement and penalties'.

In this update

No major changes.

Last updated: June 2024

Key legislation

- Recreational Craft Regulations 2017

Please note

This information is intended for guidance; only the courts can give an authoritative interpretation of the law.

The guide's 'Key legislation' links go to the legislation.gov.uk website. The site usually updates the legislation to include any amendments made to it. However, this is not always the case. Information on all changes made to legislation can be found by following the above links and clicking on the 'More Resources' tab.

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