ENFORCEMENT OF THE SPARK IGNITION MARINE ENGINE AND BOAT REGULATION

On April 29, 2015, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) granted California an authorization pursuant to section 209(e) of the federal Clean Air Act for 2008 Amendments to California's Spark Ignition Marine Engine and Boat Regulation. U.S. EPA's action authorizes the California Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) to enforce specific provisions of the Spark Ignition Marine Engine and Boat Regulation applicable to 2009 and newer model year marine vessels powered by engines greater than 373 kW that are manufactured for sale, sold, or offered for sale in California. ARB’s marine engine program is an important part of efforts to improve California's air quality through reductions of hydrocarbon (HC) and oxides of nitrogen (NOx) emissions.

ARB has already been enforcing the engine certification, emission control label and consumer environmental label provisions of this regulation. This advisory notifies manufacturers and distributors of spark ignited watercraft in California that ARB staff will proceed with enforcement of emission requirements related to engines powered by more than 373KW (>500 HP) on or after June 1, 2015. Specifically, all boats using 2009 and later high performance Sterndrive and Inboard engines are required to incorporate enhanced evaporative controls, including evaporative control canisters and low permeation fuel tanks and hoses.

PENALTIES
Any manufacturer or distributor that does not comply with applicable emission requirements shall be subject to civil penalties for each watercraft which does not comply with the standards or procedures and which is first sold in this state.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
For information regarding this advisory or technical questions concerning the regulation, please visit the Spark Ignition Marine Engine Regulatory and Certification webpage at http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/offroad/recmarine/marinectp/marinectp.htm. For general questions about marine engine regulations, you may contact Erin Blanton at (916) 229-0552.

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