

Marine Information Bulletin

Navigation lights on personal watercraft

Background

All personal watercraft (PWC) operating at night or in restricted visibility must show navigation lights. PWC operating in Queensland waters must be equipped with the appropriate lights as per the Collision Regulations (Colregs).

Installation

Navigation lights must be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Navigation lights should be mounted so as to minimize damage by contact with other objects under normal operating conditions, for example, lights mounted on the topsides of smaller craft can be damaged when coming alongside a wharf or pontoon.

A mast for an all round white light on a PWC should be installed in such a way it will not pose an impaling hazard. An option to reduce this risk would be a heavy duty spring mounted base. The addition of any after market products to a PWC must be in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and must not compromise the watertight integrity of the hull.

Lights

An all-round white light shows over a nominal arc of the horizon of 360°. The light fitting must be located at least one metre above the sidelights; and should as far as practicable, be on the centreline of the boat. As a general rule, an all round white light should not be obscured by masts or other structures by more than 6° of arc.



PWC's need to have a port (red) and a starboard (green) side light each showing an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 112.5°. If the design of the boat allows, a combination port and starboard light unit can

be mounted on the centreline of the boat, in place of two individual side lights.

Further information on the installation and alignment of this equipment can be found on the Maritime Safety Queensland website (www.msq.qld.gov.au).

Information

For further information about this Marine Information Bulletin, email msqmail@msq.qld.gov.au.

Other Marine Information Bulletins covering various topics relating to the safe operation of vessels can be obtained from Maritime Safety Queensland's website www.msq.qld.gov.au and from the following Maritime Safety Queensland regional offices:

Airlie Beach	(07) 4946 2200
Bundaberg	(07) 4131 8500
Cairns	(07) 4052 7400
Gladstone	(07) 4973 1200
Hervey Bay	(07) 4194 9600
Mackay	(07) 4944 3700
Mooloolaba	(07) 5477 8425
Pinkenba	(07) 3860 3500
Southport	(07) 5539 7300
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