



September 25, 2017

For Immediate Release



Ground Fault Protection Upcoming Changes That All Marina Owners Need to Know

Every day, about 10 people in the U.S. die from accidental drowning, according to the CDC. How many of these are related to electric shock drowning (ESD) is difficult to track. Cliff Norton, Brian Bateman and Eric Noegel of Bellingham Marine will be discussing the new electrical regulations for marine facilities and steps operators need to take to make sure their marina is in compliance.



Norton

In 2011, the NFPA set a ground-fault protection threshold of 100mA for marinas and boatyards. At 100mA, an individual in affected water will experience ventricular fibrillation, or a rapid, life-threatening heart rhythm. Clearly, this level is not adequate in preventing loss of life.



Bateman

Norton, Bateman and Noegel will discuss the revised threshold as well as where the industry is heading in the future. How will this change affect the management and functionality of your marina? What programs and policies are marinas implementing to offset the impact this new code will have on day-to-day operations? Informing and educating operators and tenants concerning these new guidelines will be an important component to aggressively embracing this new life safety standard.

While swimming is never condoned in a marina, there is always the risk of someone falling into the water by accident. This presentation will show you the steps you can take to ensure you have a safe marina. The good news is, a lower threshold will provide a higher level of confidence concerning personnel protection that did not exist under the 2011 code.

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Noegel

Norton currently serves on a panel for an NFPA project addressing barriers and developing measures for preventing ESD around marinas.

Bateman holds a current electrical contractors license and was president of his own electrical contracting company before joining Bellingham Marine. Noegel is the Manager of Project Development for Bellingham's Southwest Division. With over 20 years' experience in marina planning and design, Noegel has a unique understanding of how this new code will impact marinas.

Norton, Bateman and Noegel will share their expertise on how vessel and infrastructure testing are vital components in providing a safer marina for all in this talk, scheduled for Tuesday, October 24th at the 46th Annual MRA Educational Conference and Trade Show. For more information visit <http://www.marina.org/2017conference/>.

The Marine Recreation Association is a professional organization that represents marina owners, operators, and industry professionals located throughout the western United States with additional members in Canada, Mexico, and Australia. Created more than 46 years ago, the MRA actively promotes and represents recreational boating interests while providing educational, management, and operations seminars and information for marine industry owners, operators, and staff.

For additional information about the MRA, and all of its activities and interests, please contact Mariann Timms by phone at (209) 334-0661, email at mra@marina.org or go online at <http://www.marina.org>.