

<b>Title</b>	<b>Apply knowledge of basic survival skills for boating</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>5</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	<p>This unit standard is intended for all people engaged in recreational boating.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to: explain the common causes of boating fatalities in New Zealand and ways to minimise them; demonstrate knowledge of the effects of cold on the body and ways to manage them; demonstrate knowledge of personal flotation devices and buoyancy aids; demonstrate and apply knowledge of basic distress signalling equipment; describe factors which may upset boat stability; and, demonstrate survival skills in the water.</p>
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<b>Classification</b>	Maritime > Sea Survival and Sea Safety
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<b>Available grade</b>	Achieved
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## Guidance Information

- 1 Legislation relevant to this unit standard includes:  
Health and Safety at Work Act 2015.  
Maritime Transport Act 1994 and subsequent amendments.  
Enactments and codes relevant to this unit standard may include but are not limited to the Maritime Rules Part 91: Navigational Safety Rules.
- 2 References  
Maritime New Zealand. *Maritime rules and advisory circulars*. Available at: <https://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/>.  
Maritime New Zealand. *Radio Handbook. Your guide to marine communication (Fourth Edition)*. ISBN 0-478-18816-1. Wellington: Maritime New Zealand, 2016. Available at <https://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/>.  
Maritime New Zealand. *Safer Boating: an Essential Guide*. Wellington, 2014. Available at: <https://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/>.  
NZS 5823:2005. *Specification for buoyancy aids and marine safety harnesses and lines*. Wellington: Standards New Zealand, 2005.  
Order of St John. *The New Zealand First Aid Handbook*. Penguin Group New Zealand, 2015. Available at [www.stjohn.org.nz](http://www.stjohn.org.nz).  
Sabella, J, and Associates, Inc. *The Cold Water Survival Handbook: 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.* Seattle: John Sabella and Associates, 1989.  
Coastguard Boating Education, Scanlan, Mike. *Safety in Small Craft*, 3rd edition 2020. ISBN 978-0-473-51208-8.  
Yachting New Zealand. *Guide to Offshore Personal Safety for Racing and Cruising*. Auckland, 2015.

### 3 Definitions

*Accepted industry practice* refers to approved codes of practice and standardised procedures accepted by the wider maritime industry as examples of best practice.  
*EPIRB* refers to emergency position indicating radio beacon.  
*Personal flotation devices* include life jackets and buoyancy aids.  
*PLB* refers to personal locator beacon.  
*VHF* refers to very high frequency.

### 4 Assessment information

- a The operation of VHF radios, EPIRBs, PLBs, and flares may be demonstrated in a simulated situation.
- b Water survival skills may be demonstrated in a safe environment such as a swimming pool.
- c All activities and evidence must be in accordance with the reference texts, and accepted industry practice.

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## Outcomes and performance criteria

### Outcome 1

Explain the common causes of boating fatalities in New Zealand and ways to minimise them.

#### Performance criteria

- 1.1 Common causes of boating fatalities identified by Maritime New Zealand statistics are identified and explained.

Range three causes are required.

- 1.2 The effect alcohol can have on a person's ability to stay safe while boating is identified and explained.

Range three effects are required.

- 1.3 Essential safety equipment is identified and their contribution to boat safety is explained.

Range six items are required.

### Outcome 2

Demonstrate knowledge of the effects of cold on the body and ways to manage them.

#### Performance criteria

- 2.1 The effect of cold water immersion on the body is explained and ways to manage it are described.

- 2.2 The effect of hypothermia on the body is explained and ways to minimise it are described.

**Outcome 3**

Demonstrate knowledge of personal flotation devices and buoyancy aids.

**Performance criteria**

- 3.1 The rules covering the carrying and wearing of personal flotation devices are stated in accordance with Maritime Rules Part 91 and any relevant local authority regulations.
- 3.2 The correct type of personal flotation device is matched to the intended activity in accordance with Maritime New Zealand guidelines.
- Range activities to include at least two of – recreational boating, fishing, dinghy sailing, kayaking, white water rafting.
- 3.3 Items which may be used as buoyancy aids in an emergency are identified.
- 3.4 Reasons for staying with an upturned boat are explained.
- Range evidence for two reasons is required.

**Outcome 4**

Demonstrate and apply knowledge of basic distress signalling equipment.

**Performance criteria**

- 4.1 Flare types are identified, their applications are explained, and the steps to activate them are described in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
- Range smoke flares, pinpoint flares, parachute flares.
- 4.2 The basic operating principles of EPIRBs and PLBs are explained and the steps to activate them are described in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
- 4.3 The advantages of VHF radios are described, and their basic operation is explained.
- Range power switch, channel selection, transmit button.
- 4.4 The use and limitations of cell phones for sending emergency calls is explained.
- 4.5 The key information to include in an emergency call is stated.
- 4.6 An emergency call is made using a VHF radio in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
- 4.7 Flares are operated on land and on the water in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

**Outcome 5**

Describe factors which may upset boat stability.

**Performance criteria**

- 5.1 The importance of maintaining a low centre of gravity to ensure boat stability, and ways to achieve this are described.
- 5.2 The way sudden movement of a load can upset stability is described.
- 5.3 The way water moving freely inside the boat can upset stability is described.
- 5.4 The way overloading can reduce freeboard and stability and increase the risk of swamping is described.

**Outcome 6**

Demonstrate survival skills in the water.

**Performance criteria**

- 6.1 A lifejacket is donned and fastened before entering the water in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
- 6.2 Techniques for swimming while wearing a lifejacket are demonstrated.
- 6.3 Techniques to minimise heat loss in the water are demonstrated.  
Range as an individual and in a group.
- 6.4 Techniques for climbing out of the water while wearing a lifejacket are demonstrated.
- 6.5 Techniques for assisting others to get out of the water are demonstrated.

<b>Planned review date</b>	31 December 2025
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**Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions**

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	18 August 2016	31 December 2022
Review	2	24 September 2020	N/A

<b>Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference</b>	0013
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

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**Comments on this unit standard**

Please contact Competenz [qualifications@competenz.org.nz](mailto:qualifications@competenz.org.nz) if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.