

RCD: Recreational Craft Directive (Directive 2013/53/EU), explained

The Recreational Craft Directive sets design, construction, emission and conformity assessment requirements and the CE marking for recreational craft from 2,5 m to 24 m, personal watercraft, their engines and listed components, binding manufacturers, importers, distributors and private importers. It has applied since 18 January 2016, replacing Directive 94/25/EC, and has never been amended.

Reviewed 24 September 2026 by Conphora compliance team · Next review 13 March 2027 · Not legal advice

Key facts

Reference	Directive 2013/53/EU	Act type	Directive
In force	17 January 2014	Applies from	18 January 2016
Enforced by	National market surveillance authorities enforce the national laws transposing the directive; Article 43 still cites Article 15(3) and Articles 16 to 29 of Regulation (EC) No 765/2008, read as Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 since 16 July 2021, whose Annex I lists the directive as point 46 and whose Article 4 requires an economic operator established in the Union for every craft, engine and component placed on the market.	CELEX	32013L0053

Key dates

16 June 1994	Directive 94/25/EC on recreational craft adopted, covering craft of a hull length from 2,5 m to 24 m; Directive 2003/44/EC of 16 June 2003 later extended it to personal watercraft and added exhaust and noise emission limits for compression ignition and spark ignition propulsion engines	recitals 1 and 2
20 November 2013	Directive 2013/53/EU adopted by the European Parliament and the Council as the New Legislative Framework replacement for Directive 94/25/EC, with stricter exhaust limits, harmonised obligations for private importers and a clarified list of exclusions	title and recitals 4, 6, 20 and 32
17 January 2014	Entry into force, the twentieth day after publication in OJ L 354 of 28 December 2013; the Commission's delegated power under Article 47 runs from this date	Art. 48(2) and Art. 57
13 November 2015	Corrigendum published in OJ L 297 corrects the English text in Article 47, point (a)(i) and in Annex I, Part B, point 1.1(b); the four later corrigenda concern the Danish, Swedish, Dutch, Greek and German versions only	C1 markers
1 January 2016	Danish executive order nr. 1689 of 15 December 2015 on recreational craft and personal watercraft in force, transposing the parts of the directive that are not emission limits and naming Søfartsstyrelsen as the notifying authority	§ 27, stk. 5, § 39 and § 58
18 January 2016	Member States apply their transposing measures and Directive 94/25/EC is repealed; the exhaust emission limits of Annex I, Part B, point 2.2 apply from this date	Art. 54, Art. 56 and Annex I, Part B, point 2.2
18 January 2017	End of the transitional period: products covered by Directive 94/25/EC, in conformity with it and placed on the market or put into service before this date may still be made available and put into service	Art. 55(1)
24 January 2017	Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1 on watercraft identification enters into force, the twentieth day after publication in OJ L 1 of 4 January 2017; it fixes the five elements of the watercraft identification number and the procedure by which a national authority assigns a manufacturer its single unique code	Art. 3, Art. 4, Art. 6, Art. 7 and Art. 10

18 January 2020	End of the extra transition for outboard spark ignition propulsion engines with a power of 15 kW or less that meet the stage I exhaust limits of Annex I, Part B, point 2.1 and were manufactured by small and medium-sized enterprises	Art. 55(2) and Annex I, Part B, point 2.1
16 July 2021	Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 applies: it replaces the market surveillance articles of Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 that Article 43 cites, lists the directive as point 46 of its Annex I and, under Article 4, requires an economic operator established in the Union for every craft, engine and component placed on the market	Art. 4(5), Art. 39, Art. 44 and Annex I point 46
16 July 2021	Danish executive order nr. 1596 of 30 June 2021 on the regulation of noise and air emissions from recreational craft and personal watercraft in force, replacing order nr. 1100 of 31 October 2019 and carrying the exhaust and noise limits, the durability hours and the marking of engines	§ 1, § 6, § 11, § 17, § 25 and annexes 1, 2 and 5
12 October 2022	Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/1954 lists the harmonised standards for recreational craft and personal watercraft drafted in support of the directive in one act, published in OJ L 269 of 17 October 2022	footnote 5
1 January 2026	Danish executive order nr. 1548 of 3 December 2025 in force, repealing order nr. 1689 of 15 December 2015: Erhvervsstyrelsen becomes the Danish market surveillance authority for recreational craft, the notifying authority for notified bodies and the national authority under Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1, Søfartsstyrelsen keeps the supervision in Greenland, and the penalty article now also covers Article 4 of Regulation (EU) 2019/1020	§ 27, stk. 5 and stk. 8, § 39, § 43, stk. 2, § 56 and § 58
13 March 2026	Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2026/550 of 12 March 2026 adds EN ISO 8665-2:2024 on power measurements and declarations for electric marine propulsion and EN ISO 15085:2024 on protection from falling overboard and means of reboarding to the harmonised standards list, and enters into force on the day of its publication	Art. 1, Art. 2 and Annex
13 August 2027	The reference to EN ISO 15085:2003 as amended in 2009 and 2018 is withdrawn from the harmonised standards list, so only	Art. 2 and Annex, point (1)

EN ISO 15085:2024 then confers the
presumption of conformity for protection
from falling overboard and means of
reboarding

Obligations by role

Manufacturer (boatbuilder, engine maker or brand owner)

- Design and manufacture craft, engines and components to the applicable essential requirements of Annex I: for craft the design category set by wind force and significant wave height, the watercraft identification, the builder's plate, protection from falling overboard and means of reboarding, visibility from the main steering position, the owner's manual, structure, stability and freeboard, buoyancy and flotation, openings, flooding, the manufacturer's maximum recommended load, life raft stowage for categories A and B and for categories C and D longer than 6 m, escape, anchoring, handling characteristics and the installation rules for engines, fuel, electrical, steering, gas, fire protection, navigation lights and discharge prevention. Art. 4(1), Art. 7(1) and Annex I, Part A, points 1 to 5
- Design and build propulsion engines so that exhaust emissions stay within the Annex I, Part B limits, mark each engine with your name and contact address, the engine type and engine family, a unique serial number and the CE marking in a way that lasts the normal life of the engine, and supply installation and maintenance instructions that keep the engine within the limits over its normal life of 480 hours or 10 years for compression ignition engines, 480 hours or 10 years, 150 hours or 3 years or 50 hours or 1 year for spark ignition inboard and stern drive engines by power category, 350 hours or 5 years for personal watercraft engines and 350 hours or 10 years for outboard engines.

Annex I, Part B, points 1, 2 and 3; § 6 and § 11, stk. 3

- Design and build propulsion engines so that exhaust emissions stay within the Annex I, Part B limits over the normal engine life set for the engine type (480 hours or 10 years for compression ignition engines, 350 hours or 10 years for outboard engines, and so on). Annex I, Part B, points 2 and 3
- Mark each propulsion engine, in a way that lasts its normal life, with your name and contact address, the engine type and engine family and a unique serial number. Annex I, Part B, point 1
- Supply installation and maintenance instructions that keep the engine within the exhaust emission limits over its normal life. Annex I, Part B, point 3; § 6 and § 11, stk. 3
- Keep recreational craft with inboard or stern drive engines without integral exhaust, personal watercraft, outboard engines and stern drive engines with integral exhaust within the Annex I, Part C noise limits of 67, 72 and 75 dB maximum sound pressure level by rated power of a single engine, with an allowance of 3 dB for twin and multiple engine units, or use the alternative for inboard and stern drive configurations without integral exhaust with a Froude number of 1,1 or less and a power to displacement ratio of 40 or less. Annex I, Part C, points 1.1 to 1.3; § 12 and annex 5
- Draw up the technical documentation in accordance with Article 25 and Annex IX so that the design, construction, operation and conformity assessment can be clearly understood, and carry out or have carried out the conformity assessment procedure that Articles 19 to 22 and Article 24 allow for the product, its hull length and its design category. Art. 7(2), Art. 19 to Art. 22, Art. 24 and Art. 25
- Draw up the technical documentation in accordance with Article 25 and Annex IX so that the design, construction, operation and conformity assessment of the product can be clearly understood.

Art. 7(2) and Art. 25

- Carry out or have carried out the conformity assessment procedure that Articles 19 to 22 and Article 24 allow for the product, its hull length and its design category. Art. 7(2), Art. 19 to Art. 22 and Art. 24
- Draw up the EU declaration of conformity in the Annex IV model with the elements of the modules used and of Annex V, keep it continuously updated, translate it into the languages the Member State requires and let it accompany every watercraft, every component placed on the market separately and every propulsion engine; for a partly completed craft supply the Annex III declaration instead.

Art. 15 and Annexes III and IV

- Affix the CE marking visibly, legibly and indelibly before the product is placed on the market or put into service, on the builder's plate of a watercraft mounted separately from the watercraft identification number, on the engine itself for a propulsion engine, and on the packaging and accompanying documents for a component too small to carry it, followed by the identification number of the notified body where that body is involved in production control or post-construction assessment.

Art. 16, Art. 17 and Art. 18

- Mark each craft with the watercraft identification number made up of your country code, the unique manufacturer code the national authority assigned you, a unique serial number, the month and year of production and the model year, applying for that single code from the national authority of the Member State where you are established, or, if you are established outside the Union, from the authority of one Member State only, before placing a craft on the Union market.

Annex I, Part A, point 2.1; Art. 3, Art. 4, Art. 6 and Art. 7

- Mark each craft with the watercraft identification number: country code, your unique manufacturer code, a unique serial number, the month and year of production and the model year. Annex I, Part A, point 2.1
- Apply for a single unique manufacturer code from the national authority of the Member State where you are established or, if established outside the Union, from the authority of one Member State only, before placing a craft on the Union market. Art. 3, Art. 4, Art. 6 and Art. 7
- Keep the technical documentation and a copy of the declaration for 10 years after the product was placed on the market, keep series production in conformity, taking account of changes in design and in the harmonised standards referenced, sample-test where the risks warrant it, keep a register of complaints, non-conforming products and recalls and inform distributors, mark a type, batch or serial number and your name and contact address, supply the owner's manual in the language the Member State determines, take corrective action, inform the authorities where a product presents a risk, and identify your suppliers and customers for 10 years. Art. 7(3) to Art. 7(9) and Art. 13(1)
- Keep the technical documentation and a copy of the declaration of conformity for 10 years after the product was placed on the market. Art. 7(3)
- Keep procedures in place for series production to remain in conformity, taking account of changes in product design and in the harmonised standards referenced. Art. 7(4)
- Where the risks warrant it, sample-test products made available, investigate, keep a register of complaints, non-conforming products and recalls, and keep distributors informed. Art. 7(4)
- Mark the product with a type, batch or serial number and with your name, registered trade name or trade mark and contact address. Art. 7(5) and Art. 7(6)
- Supply the owner's manual and safety information in a language easily understood by consumers and other end users, as the Member State concerned determines. Art. 7(7)
- Where a product you placed on the market does not conform, take corrective measures, withdraw or recall it, and where it presents a risk immediately inform the competent national authorities. Art. 7(8)
- Be able to identify to the market surveillance authorities the economic operators that supplied you and that you supplied, for 10 years. Art. 13(1)

Authorised representative

- Act under a written mandate that at least lets you keep a copy of the declaration and the technical documentation at the disposal of the national surveillance authorities for 10 years after the product was placed on the market. Art. 8(3)(a)
- On a reasoned request from a competent national authority, provide all the information and documentation necessary to demonstrate the conformity of a product, and cooperate with the authorities on any action taken to eliminate the risks posed by the products covered by your mandate. Art. 8(3)(b) and (c)
- Do not take over the manufacturer's duty to design and manufacture to the essential requirements or the drawing up of the technical documentation; neither can form part of the mandate. Art. 8(2)
- Where the manufacturer is outside the Union and no importer exists, you may be the economic operator established in the Union that Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 requires for every craft, engine and component placed on the market, verifying the declaration and documentation, informing the market surveillance authorities of risks and cooperating on corrective action, with your name and contact details on the product, its packaging, the parcel or an accompanying document. Art. 4(1) to Art. 4(5) and Annex I point 46
- Where the manufacturer is outside the Union and no importer exists, you may be the economic operator established in the Union that Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 requires for every craft, engine and component placed on the market. Art. 4(1), Art. 4(2) and Annex I point 46
- As that economic operator, verify that the declaration of conformity and the technical documentation have been drawn up and keep the declaration available to the authorities. Art. 4(3)(a)
- As that economic operator, provide information on reasoned request, inform the market surveillance authorities of risks and cooperate on corrective action. Art. 4(3)(b) to (d)
- As that economic operator, have your name and contact details indicated on the product, its packaging, the parcel or an accompanying document. Art. 4(4)
- Where a notified body instructs it, affix its identification number after the CE marking on the manufacturer's behalf, and be able to identify the economic operators that supplied you and that you supplied for 10 years. Art. 13(1) and Art. 18(3)
- Where a notified body instructs it, affix its identification number after the CE marking on the manufacturer's behalf. Art. 18(3)
- Be able to identify the economic operators that supplied you and that you supplied, for 10 years.

Art. 13(1)

Importer

- Place only compliant products on the Union market, and before placing a product on the market check that the manufacturer carried out the appropriate conformity assessment procedure, drew up the technical documentation, affixed the CE marking, and that the product is accompanied by the declaration, the owner's manual and the documents required by Annex I, Part A, point 2.5, Part B, point 4 and Part C, point 2, and that the manufacturer applied the identification and address markings.

Art. 9(1) and Art. 9(2)

- Do not place a product on the market where you believe it does not meet the essential requirements until it has been brought into conformity, and where it presents a risk inform the manufacturer and the market surveillance authorities. Art. 9(2), second subparagraph
- Indicate your name, registered trade name or trade mark and the address at which you can be contacted on the product or, for components where that is not possible, on the packaging or in an accompanying document, and ensure the product is accompanied by the owner's manual in a language easily understood by consumers and other end users as the Member State determines. Art. 9(3) and Art. 9(4)
- Indicate your name, registered trade name or trade mark and the address at which you can be contacted on the product or, for components where that is not possible, on the packaging or in an accompanying document. Art. 9(3)
- Ensure the product is accompanied by the owner's manual in a language easily understood by consumers and other end users, as the Member State determines. Art. 9(4)
- Keep storage and transport conditions from jeopardising compliance with the essential requirements while the product is under your responsibility, and where the risks warrant it sample-test products made available, investigate, keep a register of complaints, non-conforming products and recalls and keep distributors informed. Art. 9(5) and Art. 9(6)
- Keep storage and transport conditions from jeopardising compliance with the essential requirements while the product is under your responsibility. Art. 9(5)
- Where the risks warrant it, sample-test products made available, investigate, keep a register of complaints, non-conforming products and recalls, and keep distributors informed. Art. 9(6)
- If a product you placed on the market does not conform, immediately take the corrective measures needed to bring it into conformity, withdraw it or recall it, and where it presents a risk immediately inform the competent national authorities of the Member States in which you made it available, giving details of the non-compliance and of the corrective measures taken. Art. 9(7)
- Keep a copy of the declaration at the disposal of the market surveillance authorities for 10 years after the product was placed on the market, ensure the technical documentation can be made available on request, provide conformity information in a language the authority easily understands, cooperate on risk elimination and identify your suppliers and customers for 10 years; if you place a product on the market under your own name or trademark, or modify one already placed on the market so that compliance may be affected, you carry the manufacturer's obligations under Article 7.

Art. 9(8), Art. 9(9), Art. 11 and Art. 13(1)

- Keep a copy of the declaration of conformity at the disposal of the market surveillance authorities for 10 years after placing on the market, and ensure the technical documentation can be made available on request. Art. 9(8)
- On reasoned request provide conformity information and documentation in a language the authority easily understands, and cooperate on action to eliminate risks. Art. 9(9)

- Be able to identify the economic operators that supplied you and that you supplied, for 10 years.

Art. 13(1)

- If you place a product on the market under your own name or trademark, or modify one already placed on the market so that compliance may be affected, you carry the manufacturer's obligations under Article 7. Art. 11

Distributor (dealer, broker or chandler making craft, engines or components available)

- Act with due care in relation to the requirements of the directive when making a product available on the market. Art. 10(1)
- Before making a product available, verify that it bears the CE marking, that it is accompanied by the owner's manual, the declaration and the documents required by Annex I, Part A, point 2.5, Part B, point 4 and Part C, point 2, and by instructions and safety information in a language easily understood by consumers and other end users in the Member State concerned, and that the manufacturer and the importer applied their identification and address markings. Art. 10(2)
- Do not make a product available where you believe it does not meet the essential requirements until it has been brought into conformity, and where it presents a risk inform the manufacturer or the importer and the market surveillance authorities; keep storage and transport conditions from jeopardising compliance while the product is under your responsibility. Art. 10(2), second subparagraph, and Art. 10(3)
- Do not make a product available where you believe it does not meet the essential requirements until it has been brought into conformity, and where it presents a risk inform the manufacturer or the importer and the market surveillance authorities. Art. 10(2), second subparagraph
- Keep storage and transport conditions from jeopardising compliance with the essential requirements while the product is under your responsibility. Art. 10(3)
- If a product you made available does not conform, make sure the corrective measures needed to bring it into conformity, withdraw it or recall it are taken, and where it presents a risk immediately inform the competent national authorities of the Member States in which you made it available. Art. 10(4)
- On a reasoned request, provide the information and documentation demonstrating conformity, cooperate on action to eliminate risks, and identify the economic operators that supplied you and that you supplied for 10 years; selling under your own name or trademark, or modifying a product so that compliance may be affected, makes you the manufacturer. Art. 10(5), Art. 11 and Art. 13(1)
- On a reasoned request, provide the information and documentation demonstrating conformity, and cooperate on action to eliminate risks. Art. 10(5)
- Be able to identify the economic operators that supplied you and that you supplied, for 10 years. Art. 13(1)
- Selling under your own name or trademark, or modifying a product so that compliance may be affected, makes you the manufacturer with the obligations of Article 7. Art. 11

Private importer (person importing a craft or engine for their own use)

- Where the manufacturer has not fulfilled the responsibilities for conformity, ensure before putting the product into service that it was designed and manufactured to the essential requirements of Article 4(1) and Annex I, and carry out or have carried out the manufacturer's duties on technical documentation and conformity assessment, on keeping the documentation and a copy of the declaration for 10 years, on the owner's manual and on providing information to a competent national authority on reasoned request. Art. 12(1)
- If the manufacturer cannot supply the required technical documentation, have it drawn up using appropriate expertise. Art. 12(2)
- Lodge an application for post-construction assessment with a notified body, provide it with the documents, the technical file and any information on the use of the product after its first putting into service, and keep those documents at the disposal of the national authorities for 10 years after the assessment. Art. 19(2), Art. 23 and Annex V, point 2
- Ensure the name and address of the notified body that carried out the conformity assessment is marked on the product, affix the CE marking with the body's identification number, and for a craft fit the builder's plate carrying the words post-construction assessment and the watercraft identification number the body assigns, in which the country code field shows the country where the body is established and the manufacturer code field the body's post-construction assessment identification code followed by the certificate serial number. Art. 12(3), Art. 18(3) and Annex V, points 3, 4.1 and 4.3
- Draw up an EU declaration of conformity identifying the product, keep it at the disposal of the national authorities for 10 years after the post-construction assessment certificate was issued, make a copy available to the authorities on request, and be able to identify the economic operator that supplied you for 10 years after the supply. Art. 13(2) and Annex V, point 4.2

Penalties

Member States lay down rules on penalties, which may include criminal sanctions for serious infringements, for infringements of the national provisions adopted under the directive; the penalties must be effective, proportionate and dissuasive and may be increased where the economic operator or the private importer has previously committed a similar infringement. Market surveillance authorities that have sufficient reason to believe a product presents a risk to health or safety, to property or to the environment evaluate it, require the economic operator to take corrective action, withdraw or recall the product within a reasonable period commensurate with the risk, and inform a private importer of the corrective action, of the suspension of the putting into service or of the suspension of the use of the product; they inform the notified body, and if adequate action is not taken they adopt provisional measures prohibiting or restricting the making available, withdrawing or recalling the product, or prohibiting or restricting the putting into service or the use of a privately imported craft, and notify the Commission and the other Member States, a measure being deemed justified where no objection is raised within three months. The Commission decides disputed measures through the Union safeguard procedure. Formal non-compliance, a CE marking affixed in violation of Articles 16 to 18 or not affixed at all, a missing or incorrectly drawn up EU declaration of conformity or Annex III declaration, technical documentation that is unavailable or incomplete, missing, false or incomplete manufacturer or importer identification, or any other unfulfilled administrative requirement of Article 7 or Article 9, must be ended and otherwise leads to restriction, prohibition, recall or withdrawal, or to a ban or restriction on the use of a privately imported product. Since 16 July 2021 the surveillance powers come from Regulation (EU) 2019/1020, whose authorities can demand documents and supply-chain information, inspect and check products, buy test samples including under a cover identity, require corrective action, order the removal of online content and have products withdrawn, recalled or destroyed. In Denmark, executive order nr. 1548 of 3 December 2025 punishes infringements of the order with a fine or imprisonment of up to 1 year, adds the same penalty for failing the duties of Article 4(1), (3) or (4) of Regulation (EU) 2019/1020, for not appointing an authorised representative where one is required or not giving that representative the powers and means to do the job, and for a representative who fails to hand over a copy of the mandate, and raises the penalty to imprisonment of up to 2 years where the infringement harmed or endangered life or health, where a prohibition or order had already been issued for the same or a similar matter, or where an economic advantage was obtained or intended; executive order nr. 1596 of 30 June 2021 fines the marketing or putting into service of an engine or craft that breaches the exhaust or noise limits, the marking rules, the test cycles or test fuels, a marketing prohibition or an order of the supervisory authority, rising to imprisonment of up to 2 years where the breach was intentional or grossly negligent and harmed or endangered the environment or produced an economic advantage. Erhvervsstyrelsen carries out the market surveillance in Denmark, Søfartsstyrelsen in Greenland, and Sikkerhedsstyrelsen, since January 2026 the department Markedsovervågning of Erhvervsstyrelsen, supervises the emission rules assisted by Miljøstyrelsen, which can prohibit the marketing and putting into service of a product that may endanger the environment or human health even where it carries the CE marking.

Art. 44, Art. 45, Art. 46 and Art. 53; Art. 14, Art. 16, Art. 39 and Annex I point 46; § 43, stk. 2, § 44, § 46 and § 56; § 17, § 18, § 19, §

Checklist

- 1. Confirm the product is in scope: a recreational craft of 2,5 m to 24 m hull length, a personal watercraft of less than 4 m driven by a water jet pump, a partly completed craft, a propulsion engine, one of the five Annex II components, or a craft or engine undergoing a major conversion or modification (Article 2(1) and Article 3).
- 2. Work through the Article 2(2) exclusions part by part, remembering that the thirteen categories in point (a) are excluded only from the design and construction requirements of Annex I, Part A, and that charter or training use does not take a recreational craft out of the directive (Article 2(2) and Article 2(3)).
- 3. Decide your role for each product, remembering that selling under your own brand or modifying a product already on the market makes you the manufacturer, and that post-construction assessment is open only to genuinely non-commercial private imports (Article 11 and Article 19(2)).
- 4. Assign the design category A, B, C or D from the wind force and significant wave height the craft is designed for, and derive the manufacturer's maximum recommended load, the stability, freeboard and buoyancy targets and the life raft stowage requirement from it (Annex I, Part A, points 1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.6 and 3.7).
- 5. Apply the harmonised standards listed in Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/1954 as amended, or document the solutions used instead, and plan for EN ISO 15085:2024 replacing the 2003 edition from 13 August 2027 (Article 14 and Implementing Decision (EU) 2026/550).
- 6. Choose the conformity assessment route for the design and construction, for the exhaust emissions and for the noise emissions separately, and engage a notified body wherever the route is not plain internal production control under module A (Articles 20 to 22 and Article 24(3)).
- 7. Compile the Annex IX technical documentation so that the design, construction, operation and assessment can be clearly understood, and keep it with the declaration for 10 years (Article 7(3) and Article 25).
- 8. Apply for your single unique manufacturer code from the national authority of the Member State where you are established, or, if you are outside the Union, from one Member State only, and build the watercraft identification number from the country code, that code, a unique serial number, the month and year of production and the model year (Annex I, Part A, point 2.1, and Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1, Articles 4, 6 and 7).
- 9. Fit the builder's plate with the manufacturer's name and contact address, the CE marking, the design category, the maximum recommended load and the recommended number of persons, affix the CE marking with the notified body number where one is involved, draw up the Annex IV declaration and supply the owner's manual in the required language (Annex I, Part A, points 2.2 and 2.5, and Articles 15, 17 and 18).
- 10. Set up the corrective action and notification procedure, the 10-year supplier and customer traceability and, where the risks warrant it, sample testing and a complaints register, and appoint the Union-established economic operator that Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 requires (Articles 7(4), 7(8), 9(6), 9(7), 10(4) and 13, and Regulation (EU) 2019/1020, Article 4).

Sources

1. Directive 2013/53/EU on recreational craft and personal watercraft as published in OJ L 354, 28 December 2013 (EUR-Lex) — <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32013L0053>
2. Consolidated text of Directive 2013/53/EU as at 28 December 2013, incorporating the corrigendum of OJ L 297, 13 November 2015 (EUR-Lex) — <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:02013L0053-20131228>
3. Document information, dates, corrigenda and relationships for CELEX 32013L0053 (EUR-Lex) — <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32013L0053>
4. Directive 94/25/EC on recreational craft, repealed with effect from 18 January 2016 (EUR-Lex) — <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:31994L0025>
5. Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1 on procedures for watercraft identification (EUR-Lex) — <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32017R0001>
6. Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2026/550 amending the harmonised standards list for recreational craft (EUR-Lex) — <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32026D0550>
7. Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 on market surveillance and compliance of products (EUR-Lex) — <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32019R1020>
8. Regulation (EU) 2016/1628 on non-road mobile machinery engines, which repealed Directive 97/68/EC from 1 January 2017 and excludes watercraft from its own scope (EUR-Lex) — <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32016R1628>
9. Harmonised standards for recreational craft under Directive 2013/53/EU (European Commission, DG GROW) — https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/single-market/goods/european-standards/harmonised-standards/recreational-craft_en
10. Recreational craft sector, the Recreational Craft Sectoral Group and the application guide (European Commission, DG GROW) — https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/sectors/maritime-industries/recreational-craft-sector/what-commission-doing_en
11. Bekendtgørelse nr. 1548 af 3. december 2025 om fritidsfartøjer og personlige fartøjer (Retsinformation) — <https://www.retsinformation.dk/eli/lta/2025/1548>
12. Bekendtgørelse nr. 1596 af 30. juni 2021 om regulering af støj- og luftemissioner fra fritidsfartøjer og personlige fartøjer (Retsinformation) — <https://www.retsinformation.dk/eli/lta/2021/1596>
13. Bekendtgørelse nr. 1689 af 15. december 2015 om fritidsfartøjer og personlige fartøjer, repealed on 1 January 2026 (Retsinformation) — <https://www.retsinformation.dk/eli/lta/2015/1689>
14. Sikkerhedsstyrelsen, a part of Erhvervsstyrelsen from January 2026 (Erhvervsstyrelsen) — <https://erhvervsstyrelsen.dk/sikkerhedsstyrelsen-en-del-af-erhvervsstyrelsen>

Generated from <https://www.conphora.com/regulations/rcd/> on 13 October 2026

Written from the official text on EUR-Lex and the Commission's guidance, with a source for every fact. It is not legal advice.