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What Is a Vessel Check — and Why Does It Exist?

Most boat problems don't come from neglect. They come from unknowns.

A Vessel Check exists to reduce those unknowns by providing owners with a clear, documented understanding of vessel condition so decisions can be made before something becomes a surprise.

What a Vessel Check Is (and Is Not)

A Vessel Check is a structured, observational condition assessment with photo documentation and written reporting. It is not a formal survey, certification, or pass/fail inspection.

Why Vessel Checks Matter

Vessel Checks help owners avoid surprises, prioritize maintenance, track condition over time, and make informed decisions rather than reactive ones.

How Vessel Checks Are Performed

Each check follows a consistent process: reviewing vessel configuration, observing system condition, verifying apparent function where appropriate, documenting findings, and providing a written report.

Introductory vs. Periodic Vessel Checks

Introductory checks establish a baseline with the owner present. Periodic checks are shorter follow-ups that track changes over time.

What Happens After a Vessel Check?

There is no obligation. Owners may choose to schedule follow-up service, coordinate contractors, monitor findings, or simply retain the report for reference.

A Note on Standards

Observations are informed by ABYC standards and industry best practices. Vessel Checks are observational and non-certifying by design.

Good decisions start with good information.