



For Immediate Release
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ABYC Takes Certification Courses to Taiwan

May 6, 2009, Annapolis, MD: Upon the request of the Taiwan Yacht Industry Association (TYIA) and the United Ship Design & Development Center (USDDC) the American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC) will be holding two ABYC Certification courses in Kaohsiung, Taiwan. ABYC will conduct the four-day Electrical Certification course on May 12 – 15, 2009 and the four-day ABYC Marine Systems Certification course May 18 – 21, 2009 as part of the ABYC On-Site training program. Both courses will be taught by ABYC Instructor Mickey Smith, and will be held at the USDDC office in Kaohsiung, Taiwan.

Mike New, ABYC's Education Director said, "ABYC was honored to be contacted about our On-Site training program by the TYIS and USDDC. ABYC has taught our certification courses all around the world to include Australia, England, South Africa and Canada, and we are thrilled to be moving into this geographic region of the world. Taiwan has been producing recreational craft for over 30 years now, and we feel that by hosting two ABYC Certification courses, the Taiwan boatbuilding community is recognizing the importance of building safe, better quality boats using ABYC Standards."

Local technicians from the Ocean Alexander Yacht Company's yard in Taiwan (Alexander Marine), as well as the TaShing Yacht Building facility will be in attendance. Other members of the TYIA or USDDC can also register by calling Steve Chuang at the USDDC 866 2 2808 5899, ext. 338.

ABYC offers technical training courses that progress from basic to advanced, and includes eight workforce certification courses for marine technicians and professionals. To schedule an On-Site course, or to receive more information on customized training programs, both state-side and around the globe, contact Michael New at (410) 990-4460, ext. 31 or via email at mnew@abycinc.org. For a listing of regularly scheduled ABYC Certification courses and other training programs, please visit www.abycinc.org.

The United Ship Design & Development Center (USDDC) was established on July 1, 1976 under the sponsorship of Ministries of Economic Affairs, National Defense, Communications, and Education, and with donation of the China Shipbuilding Corporation, Chinese Petroleum Corporation, R.O.C. Navy Headquarters, China Corporation Register of Shipping, Taiwan Machinery Manufacturing Corporation, Yangming Marine Transport Corporation, Administration Bureaus of Keelung and Kaohsiung Harbours. It was established to accelerate the Taiwan

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shipbuilding industry in developing and cultivating domestic ship design capability.

ABYC has been developing, writing and updating the safety standards for boat building and repair in the United States for 55 years. ABYC is actively involved with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) as well as certification programs for marine technicians. These standards are available on CD-ROM and in printed form. Membership and general information can be requested by calling (410) 990-4460 or by visiting the ABYC web site at www.abycinc.org.