







The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators





Hull Identification Number Training

Icons	Lesson Plan	Instructor Notes
	<p>I) Introduction</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Instructor's background 2) Make up of classroom participants <p><i>Transition</i></p>	<p>Total session time: 30 minutes</p> <p>Slide 1 (Title Slide)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officers vs. non-officers. • Ask how many years officers have done watercraft enforcement
	<p>II) What is a Hull Identification Number</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) 12 character identifier 2) Required by USCG after November 1st 1972 3) Required Secondary/hidden HIN required after 1984 4) Three HIN formats: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Straight Year b) Model Year c) New/Current Format <p><i>Transition</i></p>	<p>Slide 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (1) Equate to a vehicle identification Number. • (2) Prior to Nov. 1st 1972 serial numbers of varying lengths of characters <i>may</i> be found on watercraft • (3) Only available to Law Enforcement
	<p>III) What can a HIN tell you?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Manufacturer Identification Code 2) Production or Serial Number 3) Month of Production 4) Year of Production 5) Model Year <p><i>Transition</i></p>	<p>Slide 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MIC is first three characters and is assigned by US Coast Guard • (b) Serial Number (SN) is characters 4-8 • (b) SN is English alphabet letters or Arabic numerals • (b) SN can <i>not</i> contain letters I, O, and Q





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	<p>IV) Display of HIN</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Starboard outboard side of transom <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) within 2 in. of top of transom, gunwale, or hull/deck joint 2) W/C without a transom → starboard outboard side of hull <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) within one foot of stern b) within 2 in. of top of the hull side, gunwale, or hull/deck joint → whichever is lowest 3) Catamarans and pontoon boats <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) to the aft crossbeam within one foot of starboard hull attachment <p><i>Transition</i></p>	<p>Slide 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (2) addresses locations of HINs on PWC's • What is <u>aft</u>? Toward the stern/back of the watercraft • (3) why? → because they often have readily replaceable hulls • Remember these are the locations required by USCG, manufacturer may still place elsewhere
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4) HIN must be permanently affixed <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) carved, burned, stamped, embossed, molded, bonded 5) Attached so alteration, removal, or replacement would be obvious 6) Characters can be no less than one-fourth an inch high 7) Secondary/hidden HIN must be affixed in an unexposed location on the interior of the watercraft <p><i>Transition</i></p>	<p>Slide 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanently affixed to a part of the W/C that is <i>not</i> removable • Does not have to be affixed directly on hull, can be affixed to a plate that is permanently affixed → no screws, rivets ok • (7) Ask what year did the hidden HIN become required? <u>August 1st 1984</u>
	<p>V) HIN Formats</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Straight Year Format <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Manufacturers Identification Code b) Production or Serial Number c) Month of Production d) Year 	<p>Slide 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (b) Unique to that specific watercraft • (b) Ask what letters can <i>not</i> be in SN → I, O, and Q






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	<i>Transition</i>	
	Picture of Straight Year Format	Slide 7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Go through segments of straight year format
	<i>Transition</i>	
	2) Model Year Format <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Manufacturers Identification Code Production or Serial Number "M" designates model year format Model Year Month of Production 	Slide 8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> e) August is "A" and it follows in order after that → "B" for September, "C" for October, etc.
	<i>Transition</i>	
	Picture of Model Year Format	Slide 9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Go through segments of model year format
	<i>Transition</i>	
	3) New/Current Format <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Manufacturers Identification Code Production or Serial Number Month of Production Year of Production Model Year 	Slide 10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (c) Note that the key to month of production has changed from the Model Year Format (c) "A" is January and it follows in order after that → "B" is February, "C" is for March, etc.
	<i>Transition</i>	






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	<p>Picture of New/Current Format</p> <p><i>Transition</i></p>	<p>Slide 11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Go through segments of new/current format
	<p>VI) State Issued HIN</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Are identified by assigned state MIC <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) first two characters are the states' prefix for its state registration b) third character is a "Z" <p><i>Transition</i></p>	<p>Slide 12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note that the registration prefix for a state is not always the same as its common abbreviation → California is not CA but CF, Michigan is not MI but MC
	<p>Picture of State Issued HIN</p> <p><i>Transition</i></p>	<p>Slide 13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask students when they may see a state issued HIN → for a homemade watercraft, to correct a manufacture's error, watercraft made before November 1st 1972 Most states use the new/current HIN format even for watercraft made before August 1st 1984
	<p>VII) HIN Resources</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) United States Coast Guard MIC Database <p><i>Transition</i></p>	<p>Slide 14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can search by either: MIC, Company name, city of manufacturer, state of manufacturer






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	<p>a) MIC Database Search results</p> <p><i>Transition</i></p>	<p>Slide 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Search results, can have multiple MIC's listed depending on how you searched
	<p>b) Details for a specific MIC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parent Company - Type of watercraft produced - Comments - Status: in or out of business - Contact information <p><i>Transition</i></p>	<p>Slide 16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments section will give miscellaneous information including history of MIC if previously owned by a different company • If in business, LE can get Hidden HIN location from manufacturer → best way
	<p>2) United States Documented Vessels</p> <p><i>Transition</i></p>	<p>Slide 17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can get HIN if you know Vessel's Name or Official Number → or vice versa
	<p>3) National Association of State Boating Law Administrators</p> <p><i>Transition</i></p>	<p>Slide 18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can provide contact information for a watercraft identification specialist
	<p>4) International Association of Marine Investigators</p> <p>a) Provides marine investigative training that includes HINs</p>	<p>Slide 19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership for law enforcement and non-law enforcement marine professionals





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	<p><i>Transition</i></p> <p>5) National Insurance Crime Bureau and ISO Claim Search</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a) growing list of confidential HIN locations</p>	<p>Slide 20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NICB collected information, ISO maintains database
	<p><i>Transition</i></p> <p>5) Other Agencies that Enforce or Register Watercraft</p>	<p>Slide 21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration is typically done by the state's Wildlife Enforcement Agency, but can also be Dept. of Motor Vehicles, Dept. of Revenue, Tax Commissions, etc.
	<p><i>Transition</i></p> <p>VIII) HIN Photographs</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">1) Conforming HINs</p>	<p>Slides 22 - 34</p> <p>Slide 23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask what format → <u>Model Year</u>
	<p>Pictures of HINs</p>	<p>Slide 26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If there is anything else on the plate with the HIN, there should be a line to separate as shown Why do HIN characters look “different” from each other? → Plates pre-made, rest of characters put on after W/C is finished being built
		

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	Pictures of HINs	Slide 27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No line separating HIN and manufacturer, again, should be there → but will commonly see
		Slide 28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engraved by manufacturer
		Slide 29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May see Barcode with HIN on it as well
		Slide 31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notice location on Pontoon boat
		Slide 32 and Slide 33 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laser dot put on by Bombardier
	2) Non conforming HINs	Slide 35 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mistake by manufacturer, Kawasaki did have this HIN on file
	Pictures of Non conforming HINs	Slide 36 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask what's wrong → HIN put on backwards
		Slide 37 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where <i>should</i> this HIN be? → Starboard outboard side of transom within 2 in. of top of transom

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  	<p>Pictures of Non conforming HINs</p>	<p>Slide 38</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice lines or cracks in HIN plate → some plates are designed to make clean breaks when tampered with or trying to remove → theft? <p>Slide 39</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although a sticker...was inspected and approved as permanent by USCG → not common <p>Slide 40</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask whats wrong? <u>Lots</u>→ plate on plate, short a character on top plate, other numbers on bottom plate • Neither plate original, another pair of rivet holes discovered when bottom plate removed
	<p>IX) The end</p>	<p>Slide 41</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take questions • Hand out course/instructor evaluator forms if required

Hull Identification Formats

NEW FORMAT **BMA** 45678 H4 85

August 1, 1984

Manufacturers
ID Code (MIC)

Production
or Serial #

*Month Year
of Production

Model
Year

**Key to month of production for New Format;*

A - January	D - April	G - July	J - October
B - February	E - May	H - August	K - November
C - March	F - June	I - September	L - December

The **NEW FORMAT** replaced the **STRAIGHT YEAR** and **MODEL YEAR** formats. Although optional as of January 1, 1984, both the **NEW FORMAT** and the confidential HINs were required as of August 1, 1984.

STRAIGHT YEAR **ABC** 12345 08 83

November 1, 1972

Manufacturers
ID Code (MIC)

Production
or Serial #

Month Year
of Production

MODEL YEAR **XYZ** 45678 M 84 A

November 1, 1972

"M" designates
Model Year format

Model
Year

*Month of
Production

**Key to month of production for Model Year format;*

A - August	D - November	G - February	J - May
B - September	E - December	H - March	K - June
C - October	F - January	I - April	L - July

This information is being provided to assist in the identification of stolen boats.

**International Association
of
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