



Houseboats with more than one deck

Survey permits may be issued to Class 4E houseboats with more than one enclosed deck provided the safety standards described below are met.

Issue	Required safety standards
Structural issues	<p>Structure must be assessed to loadings derived from AS 4132.1 – 1993.</p> <p>Aluminium structures must be assessed to AS 4132.2 -1993, with the following factors of safety (FOS):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.65 for accommodation; and • 1.0 for cross structures. <p>Steel structures must be assessed to AS 4132.2 -1993 as amended for steel properties, with the following FOS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.95 for accommodation; and • 1.0 for cross structures. <p>Glass Reinforced Plastic structures must be assessed to USL 2008 – Section 5H – Construction, which adopts AS 4132.3 – 1993, with the following FOS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.5 for accommodation; and • 5.5 for cross structures <p>(a concession may be provided on case by case basis).</p> <p>Timber structures must meet USL Code Section 5M – Wood.</p> <p>Roof and external wall structures must be assessed to first principle beam theory.</p> <p>Close scrutiny must be paid to transverse strength and potential racking deformation.</p> <p>Spas and point loading must be assessed using first principles for column buckling.</p> <p>Windows must meet Building Code of Australia with design loading from AS 4132.1 – 1993.</p> <p>If the roof of the 2nd enclosed storey is accessible to occupants it is not to be covered or enclosed in any way or fitted with structures/equipment such as spas, cabinets, sinks etc.</p>
Anchoring, manoeuvring and	The vessel should not exceed 75m ² of side profile area above the waterline and a fully laden displacement of 40 tonnes.

visibility	<p>The anchor and chain required are to be assessed on case by case basis considering factors including depth of water, prevailing conditions and windage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the anchor required is 30-50kg, a mechanical winch is required in accordance with USL Code 2008 Section 13, Appendix H; • If the anchor required is >50kg, an electrical winch is required and is to be operated from the steering position in accordance with USL Code 2008 Section 13, Appendix H. <p>Visibility must meet USL Code Sub-section 18.5.7.7.</p> <p>To interpret the visibility requirements refer to the NMSC's Guidance Circular 05-1 Tinting of Navigational Space Windows.</p>
Fire protection	Meet NSCV Part C Section 4 with Fire Risk Category 1.
Stability	<p>Meet USL Code Sub-section 18.5.7.1.3.</p> <p>In the case of twin pontoons a stability test will be conducted on the highest possible deck with all persons authorised to be on-board the vessel.</p> <p>Monohull houseboats with accommodation on the upper deck may be required to undergo a Category R stability assessment.</p>
Multiple steering positions	Only one steering position must be operable at any one time.
Escape in emergency situations	<p>At least 2 adequate means of escape in emergency situations must be provided in accordance with USL Code 2008 Sub-section 5E.6 (e.g. stairs and ladders where appropriate).</p> <p>Jumping from the upper deck or sliding down poles is not considered as a means of escape for meeting survey requirements.</p>

Further information

For further information call NSW Maritime's Commercial Vessels Division on 9563 8771.