

Continental regulations for inland waterways

Time is rapidly running out to get large barges certified before the end of 2018.

For several years in Continental Europe there have been inland waterways regulations requiring owners of pleasure craft or working vessels longer than 20m to be surveyed and issued with a valid 'Technical Requirement for Inland Waterways Vessels (TRIWV) certificate'. In France and parts of Belgium this is known as a Certificate Communautaire, Community Certificate in English.

Pleasure craft shorter than 20m but where the length multiplied by the width and draught is more than 100m³ also need to be certified.

In the Netherlands, there are only a few companies able to perform such surveys and provide the owner with a certificate.

Register Holland is one of these companies and is part of the Van Dijk Expertise Group BV. Selles & van Dijk Experts also belong to this group.

In 2013, **Register Holland** was appointed by the Dutch government to carry out these surveys and provide the certificates.



CEO Rob van Dijk says: "To navigate in European waterways owners are obliged to request a safety and hull inspection to obtain the certificate (TRIWV). Without a valid certificate on board a vessel can be impounded by waterway authorities. It is then necessary to meet the requirements before a certificate can be issued and the ship released.

It is important that the owners apply before the end of 2018 and don't leave it until the last minute because after this time, the vessel will have to satisfy requirements of a new ship and that is a lot stricter. Until this time, one can use transitional rules which allow older ships to be exempt from certain requirements. If owners are wise they won't wait too long to apply for the survey. Towards the end of the deadline there may be delays in getting certified due to large numbers".

Certification by Register Holland

The van Dijk Expertise Group has several subsidiary companies. One of them is Register Holland which carries out all certification. Register Holland has a good



reputation and has carried out safety and hull inspections for over 25 years.

Register Holland have been issuing certificates since 2013 when they were licensed by the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment.

Register Holland needs to work and conform to strict regulations drafted by the ministry. IL&T (inspection environment and transport) oversee the inspections of inland waterways vessels and the release of the inland waterways certificates.

Safety and hull inspections

At a safety inspection the surveyor checks the equipment on board, the safety equipment and the engine room.

At a hull inspection, the surveyor checks the hull visually and will then perform a measurement (thickness). The anchor, anchor chain, rudder, sea valves and the propeller shaft will also be inspected. According to a checklist, the surveyor will ensure that the vessel complies with the regulations of the inland waterways.

If there are no shortcomings a certificate will be issued. If there are shortcomings, the owner needs to agree how they will be resolved. Without a certificate a vessel is not allowed to sail. A certificate is valid for a maximum of seven years. Of course the vessel owner must make sure that the technical installations are in order and stay in order.

Valuation

Besides Register Holland, the van Dijk Expertise Group has another subsidiary

company: Selles & Van Dijk Experts where all other non-certificate activities are accommodated such as damage surveys, insurance inspections and of course valuations.

Owners of vessels or yachts often need a valuation for insurance or commercial purposes. When a vessel is going to be sold there could be a different value applicable than when an owner needs financing or an insurance or in case of a seizure, expropriation, property settlement, legacy or bankruptcy.

Selles & van Dijk Experts determines together with the customer for which purpose the valuation is needed.

... we speak the language and have good contacts with local repair companies ...

Office in Denia

Besides multiple offices in the Netherlands, Selles & Van Dijk Experts also have an office in Denia, Spain. "An office in the Mediterranean is very practical for pleasure craft. Rob says: "Not only do we carry out damage surveys to caravans and pleasurecraft, we also value pleasurecraft. This may sound strange but on the other hand it's very logical. We speak the language and have good contacts with local repair companies. A caravan gets mostly repaired immediately." That makes good sense.

For more information how to contact Register Holland, see page 36. ■