



USCG Marine Safety Center



Subchapter T Vessel Types (46CFR175.400)

Flush Deck: continuous weather deck at the upper sheer line of the hull.

- Watertight deck
- No obstructions to drainage
- May have railings surrounding perimeter
- Bulwark allowed in the forward 1/3 of vessel



Open Boat: not protected from entry of water by a weather tight deck.

- Non-watertight weather deck
- Weather deck drains directly to bilge
- Overboard drainage of the weather deck is not permitted



Well Deck: solid bulwark that impede drainage over the side or exposed recess in the weather deck greater than 1/2 length of vessel.

- Watertight deck
- Freeing ports or scuppers in the transom and/or sides of bulwark.



Cockpit: exposed recess in weather deck is less than 1/2 length of vessel

- Watertight deck
- Freeing ports or scuppers in the transom and/or sides of bulwark.



Pontoon: any vessel having two or more water tight hulls which are structurally independent from the vessel's deck or cross structure.

- pontoons can be round or wall sided
- commonly aluminum or fiberglass



Multihull: two or more hulls structurally dependent/connected to the vessel's deck and cross structure.

- Catamarans, 2 hulls
- Trimarans, 3 hulls
- Space between hull (tunnel) may be open and part of hulls or separated by bulkheads



Sailing Vessel: a vessel principally equipped for propulsion by sail even if the vessel has an auxiliary means of propulsion.

- Can be monohull or multihull vessel

