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Release #: 1715

Bellingham Marine's Cliff Norton Appointed to NFPA Code Panel #7

Norton will work to increase emphasis and enforcement of electrical safety in marinas.

Jacksonville, FL, USA – 11 October 2017 – Cliff Norton, General Manager of Bellingham Marine's Utilities Division, has been appointed to the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) Code Panel #7 for the upcoming 2020 version of the National Electric Code (NEC). Norton will be representing the marine industry and will help to provide input for new code language concerning floating buildings, marinas and boatyards.

The purpose of the NEC is to safeguard persons and property from hazards arising from the use of electricity. Norton previously served as a panel member on an NFPA project that developed measures for preventing Electric Shock Drowning (ESD) around marinas. As a respected voice in the marine industry, Norton has published several articles and conducted numerous training sessions on the topic of proper marina electrical design and maintenance.

Norton will be speaking at the 45th Annual MRA Conference in Monterey, CA along with Brian Bateman and Eric Noegel of Bellingham Marine, on Tuesday, October 24th. The group will be covering recent NEC code changes and discussing programs and policies marinas are implementing to offset the impact the code will have on day-to-day operations.

"We want to thank Cliff for the added effort and workload that he will be undertaking in his role on the NFPA Code Panel," said Everett Babbitt, President and CEO of Bellingham Marine. "To have someone on the panel, who understands the unique nuances of our industry and is able to influence how the code is written, is an important opportunity."

"The panel's recommendations for the NEC 2020 can have a significant impact on the way a marina's electrical system is designed and maintained. I have no doubt Cliff will be a strong advocate for all parties involved – contractors, equipment vendors, marina owners and boaters."

As the world's leading marina design-build construction company, Bellingham Marine specializes in floating dock, floating platform and floating wave attenuation systems for marinas worldwide. The company also produces dry storage systems for the upland storage of boats.

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