

BARRUS

Est. 1917

NEW LAWS REGARDING TWO STROKE OUTBOARDS

On 1st Jan 2007 new laws (Recreational Craft Directive - RCD) became effective regarding the manufacture of TWO STROKE outboard engines.

Q. What engines are affected?

A. Effectively the new laws relate to any traditional TWO STROKE outboard engine as they cannot be adapted to conform to the new emissions regulations - these engines can be referred to as "non-compliant". OPTIMAX Low Emission engines from our sophisticated DFI (Direct Fuel Injection) range are fully compliant with the regulations due to their advanced technology and greater efficiency.

Q. Can I still buy a "non-compliant" TWO STROKE outboard?

A. YES - Any TWO STROKE outboard that was made and entered the distribution chain in Europe before 1st Jan 2007 can be sold without any restriction as to usage or timescale.

Q. How can I tell whether the non compliant (new or used) engine I intend to buy is affected by this law?

A. If the engine was made in 2006 or before then it is almost certainly OK. If it was made in 2007 and beyond then it may only be used for commercial/rescue operation.

Q. What is "commercial"?

A. The directive only refers to "Recreational" use so any non-recreational use is permitted. Broadly speaking it is determined by who will actually be using the engine. Hire boats, for instance, are USED by recreational customers and so they cannot use non compliant engines. A safety boat used by a bona fide club or rescue organisation would usually be classified as non-recreational and so would not be affected.

Q. I am a commercial user. What engines will continue to be available to me?

A. Most of the 2006 range of engines are still being made at the moment as the RCD is only law in the European Union. The range of non compliant TWO STROKE engines will become less in time as the world market diminishes.

(The above is our interpretation of the regulations and is for guidance only. Any decisions should be verified by referral to the full text of the RCD).

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