

Response Received 28 February 2005 from Individual #3:

In general anything that simplifies radio licensing is to be supported. Having read your document one currently very important issue seems to have been overlooked. Many UK registered recreational craft have or wish to have SSB radios, however currently there is only one, relatively expensive and largely unknown set that is suitable for small boats and is UK type approved. Consequently UK flagged vessel undertaking ocean passages, where SSB is an important contributor to safety, cannot legally install and use equipment that is commonly available and affordable. It seems, therefore, that there is an urgent need to review SSB equipment approval.

Summary:

Currently it is extremely difficult to acquire an SSB radio approved for use in a UK recreational vessel. This is a significant safety issue.