

THE BSS WARNING NOTICE

The BSS Warning Notice should be completed in all cases where an examiner has cause to suspect that people or property may be or are in ‘immediate danger’ or ‘at risk’ due to faults in installations or appliances on a vessel being examined.

The purpose of the BSS Warning Notice is to alert the owner or person responsible for the craft’s condition that an immediately hazardous defect has been found and secondly to alert anyone stepping aboard that they could be at risk and should take precautions.

NOTES FOR COMPLETING A BSS WARNING NOTICE

Defect class tick boxes	All defects that are not LPG, ventilation or alternating current (a.c.) electrical system related, e.g. leaking fuel, please mark the ‘other’ box with a cross and write a brief description of the hazard in the space provided; for example, imminent risk of fuel-hose failure or significant quantities of fuel or other substances escaping into the watercourse.
Boat and Owner’s name	Insert the boat name and owner’s name
Description of boat	Note the size. If you know the model and maker state these, if not, type and material e.g. 23ft FRP cruiser
Index/registration/HIN/CIN	Record at least one of these unique identifying marks whenever possible
Description of the defect	Insert the BSS Check Item number, but if not applicable write N/A. Always insert a brief description of the potential hazard. i.e. gas leak, flue gas spillage, heat damaged cables, electrical fire risks, poor ventilation, petrol leak, potential electric shock, etc.
LPG supply disconnected:	In the event of an immediate danger due to a LPG installation or appliance fault there is a requirement to disconnect the LPG supply. Please put a cross in the appropriate box.
Owner advised of the risk:	The owner (or representative) must be informed of the hazards concerned and advised to seek competent help to rectify the defect. Mark the appropriate box. If the owner is not informed, add the reason why. If the owner has been informed but does not commit to fix the defect, contact the BSS Office.
Date/time notice issued:	Insert the date and precise time (24-hour clock) of the issue of the BSS Warning Notice.
Signed:	Sign in the box and add your BSS PIN.

Hand the two top copies of the BSS Warning Notice to the owner (or send one copy if not present). Advise the owner to leave one copy displayed in a prominent position on board the boat (or leave one copy yourself if owner not present). The position should be where anyone entering onto the boat will be sure to see it.

Retain the yellow copy with the boat’s examination records.

EXAMINER ISSUE OF PUBLISHED SAFETY RELATED GUIDANCE

If the defects relate to leaking flue gases from appliances, or a significant shortfall in the fixed ventilation provision, the examiner is to include with the BSS Warning Notice a copy of the BSS leaflet entitled ‘Carbon Monoxide Safety on Boats’. In the event no leaflet is left for any reason the examiner must arrange for one to be sent to the owner by the BSS Office.

Note: BSS Examiner Conditions of Registration require that examination records be kept for at least six years as these could be important in any future investigations or legal proceedings.