# SMALL BOAT IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM 

AZMAN BIN ISMAIL

## SMALL BOAT IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM

## AZMAN BIN ISMAIL

A dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of the degree of Master of Engineering (Marine Technology)

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia

To my great Father and Mother, Brothers and Sisters, my Dear Wife and my Lovely Daughter, whose prayers always afforded me the power to accomplish this work. To all I dedicate this work with great respect and love.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

All praise to Allah SWT, the Most Gracious and Most Merciful, Who has created the mankind with knowledge, wisdom and power. Being the best creation of Allah, one still has to depend on other for many aspects, directly and indirectly. This is, however, not an exception that during the course of study, I had received so much help, cooperation and encouragement that need to duly acknowledgement.

In preparing this thesis, I was in contact with many people, academicians and practitioner. They have contributed towards my understanding and thoughts. In particular, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to my supervisor Tn Hj Yahya Samian, for encouragement, guidance, friendship and valuable comments in completion of this work. Without his guidance, support and interest, this dissertation would not have been the same as presented here.

A warmest gratitude and special dedication to my father, mother and sister for their understanding, patient and support. A special dedication to my loving wife, Saharah Awang for her support, love and joy. Also for my loving daughter, Amalia Tasnim for her understanding and love.

Then, special gratitude to Tn Hj Jamaluddin Yusuf, Mr. Adam Ali, Mr. Mohd Shukri Munajaf, Mr. Chi Soon Chung, Mr. Mohd Aliff Ahmad, Mr. Fairoz Rozali, and my friends in UniKL MIMET. Besides that, many thanks for my friends who are unnamed here and were involved directly or indirectly for giving their critism and suggestion.


#### Abstract

This research work is conducted in order to study and propose an identification system which is able to uniquely represent small boat particulars accurately. The present practice of registration and licensing system used by Marine Department and Department of Fisheries Malaysia, were unable to represent boat uniquely and accurately that not only it will make this system easily to be misused but also does not represent the important parameters of the boats. Also, the use of different standard between these Departments make the present identification system easily manipulated. The study involved collection of small boat data from various resources, present registration and licensing system used by Marine and Fisheries Department, identification system used for ship and boat by other countries and identification system used in other sectors. Based on these inputs and detail study, a more suitable and comprehensive identification system that closely adhered to the international standard has been proposed. The proposed identification system is able to provide all the necessary parameters including; Country, boat manufacturer, year and months of built, hull materials, hull forms, main dimension, gross tonnage, and serial number. This will hopefully provide a unique identification of small boats in Malaysia that enabled the Marine Authority to monitor them effectively. It is also provides good resources for designers and researchers to use the data for their future works.


#### Abstract

ABSTRAK

Kajian ini dijalankan untuk mempelajari dan mencadangkan satu sistem pengenalan yang secara uniknya berupaya memberikan data bot secara tepat. Sistem pendaftran dan perlesenan yang digunakan oleh Jabatan Laut dan Perikanan sekarang tidak dapat memberikan maklumat bot secara unik dan tepat, bukan sahaja menjadikan sistem ini mudah disalahgunakan tetapi ianya juga tidak melambangkan parameter penting bot berkenaan. Malah, penggunaan standard yang berlainan antara jabatan-jabatan ini menjadikan sistem ini mudah dimanipulasikan. Kajian ini melibatkan pengumpulan data bot dari pelbagai sumber, sistem yang digunapakai oleh Jabatan Laut dan Perikanan sekarang, pengenalan yang digunakan pada kapal dan bot di negara lain, dan pengenalan yang digunakan dalam sektor yang berbeza. Berdasarkan maklumat dan kajian terperinci, satu sistem pengenalan yang sesuai dan menyeluruh yang hampir memenuhi kehendak piawaian antarabangsa telah dicadangkan. Sistem pengenalan yang dicadangkan ini boleh menyediakan semua parameter yang diperlukan seperti negara, pembuat, bulan dan tahun dibina, jenis bahan dan rekabentuk, dimensi utama, berat kasar dan nombor siri. Ini diharapkan dapat menyediakan satu pengenalan yang unik untuk bot di Malaysia yang membolehkan pihak berkuasa marin mengawalselia dengan berkesan. Ia juga menyediakan sumber yang berguna untuk pereka dan pengkaji menggunakan maklumat tersebut untuk kajian mereka di masa hadapan.


## TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER TITLE
DECLARATION ..... i
DEDICATIONS ..... iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS ..... v
ABSTRACT ..... vi
ABSTRAK ..... vii
TABLE OF CONTENTS ..... viii
LIST OF TABLES ..... xii
LIST OF FIGURES ..... xiii
LIST OF SYMBOLS ..... xiv
1 INTRODUCTION ..... 1
1.1 Background Study ..... 1
1.2 Problems Statement ..... 2
1.3 Objectives ..... 2
1.4 Scope of Study ..... 3
1.5 Schedule of Research Activities ..... 3
1.6 Research Methodology ..... 3
1.7 Expected Outcomes ..... 5
2 LITERATURE REVIEW ..... 8
2.1 Introduction ..... 8
2.2 ISO 10087:2006 Craft Identification Number ..... 8
2.2.1 Main Features ..... 9
2.2.2 Advantages ..... 11
2.2.3 Disadvantages ..... 11
2.3 BoatCode ..... 12
2.3.1 Main Features ..... 13
2.3.2 Advantages ..... 13
2.3.3 Disadvantages ..... 14
2.4 Automatic Identification System (AIS) ..... 14
2.4.1 Main Features ..... 14
2.4.2 Advantages ..... 15
2.4.3 Disadvantages ..... 15
2.5 Vehicle Identification Number ..... 16
2.5.1 Main Features ..... 16
2.5.2 Advantages ..... 19
2.5.3 Disadvantages ..... 19
2.6 Barcode ..... 19
2.6.1 Main Features ..... 20
2.6.2 Advantages ..... 20
2.6.3 Disadvantages ..... 21
2.7 Identity Card (MyKad) ..... 21
2.7.1 Main Features ..... 22
2.7.2 Advantages ..... 22
2.7.3 Disadvantages ..... 22
2.8 Conclusion ..... 23
3 PRESENT BOAT ID SYSTEM IN MALAYSIA ..... 24
3.1 Introduction ..... 24
3.2 Boat Registration and Licensing System in ..... 24 Malaysia
3.3 Department of Fisheries (DoF). ..... 28
3.3.1 Registration Number ..... 30
3.3.2 Designated Plate ..... 32
3.4 The Marine Department ..... 33
3.4.1 Ship Registration ..... 34
3.4.2 Official Number ..... 34
3.4.3 IMO Number ..... 36
3.4.4 Boat License ..... 37
3.5 Conclusion ..... 39
4 PROPOSED BOAT ID SYSTEM ..... 40
4.1 Introduction ..... 40
4.2 Selection of Basis ID System ..... 40
4.2.1 Selection Criteria ..... 41
4.2.1.1 Uniqueness of Boat ..... 41
Representation
4.2.1.2 Traceability ..... 42
4.2.1.3 Integration With Other System ..... 42
4.2.1.4 Duplication of ID ..... 42
4.2.1.5 Standardization ..... 43
4.2.2 Analysis ..... 43
4.3 Proposed ID System ..... 44
4.3.1 Country Code ..... 45
4.3.2 Manufacturer Code ..... 46
4.3.3 Month of Built ..... 48
4.3.4 Year of Built ..... 48
4.3.5 Type of Hull Materials ..... 51
4.3.6 Type of Hull Forms ..... 51
4.3.7 Main Dimensions ..... 52
4.3.8 Gross Tonnage (GRT) ..... 54
4.3.9 Serial Number ..... 55
4.4 Verification Process ..... 55
4.5 Conclusion ..... 58
5 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION ..... 59
5.1 Discussion ..... 59
5.2 Suggestion for Future Research Works ..... 60
5.3 Conclusion ..... 61
REFERENCES ..... 62

## LIST OF TABLES

TABLE NO. TITLE$1.1 \quad$ Schedule of activities6
$2.1 \quad$ Codes representing month of manufacture ..... 10
2.2 Codes representing year of manufacture ..... 10
2.3 Standard Comparison ..... 16
2.4 World Manufacturer Identifier ..... 17
2.5 WMI and Country ..... 18
2.6 MyKad format ..... 22
3.1 Total of licensed boat in Malaysia for 2008 ..... 25
3.2 Registration format for Perak, Pulau Pinang, Pahang, ..... 31
Kedah and Terengganu
3.3 Total of ship registry year 2001-2007 ..... 35
4.1 Comparison between ID systems ..... 44
4.2 Boat Identification Number (BIN) ..... 45
4.3 Country code ..... 46
4.4 Manufacturer code ..... 47
4.5 Month of built ..... 48
4.6 Year of built ..... 49
4.7 Year 2000 till 2229 ..... 50
4.8 Types of hull materials ..... 51
4.9 Types of hull forms ..... 52
4.10 Decimal values ..... 53
4.11 Verification status ..... 55
4.12 Details of boat and BIN for verification ..... 57

## LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE NO. TITLE ..... PAGE
1.1 Research Methodology ..... 7
2.1 Craft Identification Number ..... 9
2.2 Boatcode format ..... 12
2.3 UPC and EAN format of barcodes ..... 20
2.4 Classification of some biometric traits ..... 21
3.1 (a) and (b) Unregistered boat at the Kg. Baru Jetty ..... 26
3.2 (a) and (b) Unregistered boat at the Lumut Jetty ..... 27
3.3 (a) and (b) C2 is marked on the superstructure ..... 29
3.4
Registration format for sampan in Perak ..... 30
3.5 Registration format (i.e PAF 4570) for commercial ..... 32
fishing vessel
3.6 The designated plate ..... 33
3.7
Official number welded on the bulkheads in engine ..... 35 room.
3.8 IMO number attached onto the superstructure ..... 37
3.9 License number for passenger boat ..... 38
3.10 "K" represents Cargo Boat ..... 38

## LIST OF SYMBOLS

| ID | $\sim$ Identification |
| ---: | :--- |
| GRT | $\sim$ Gross tonnage |
| ISO | $\sim$ International Standard Organization |
| CIN | $\sim$ Craft Identification Number |
| REV | $\sim$ Register of Encumbered Vehicles |
| VIN | $\sim$ Vehicle Identification Number |
| AIS | $\sim$ Automatic Identification System |
| IMO | $\sim$ International Maritime Organization |
| SOLAS | $\sim$ Safety Of Life At Sea |
| VTS | $\sim$ Vessel Traffic Service |
| ECDIS | $\sim$ Electronic Chart Display |
| WMI | $\sim$ World Manufacturer Identifier |
| VDS | $\sim$ Vehicle Descriptor Section |
| VIS | $\sim$ Vehicle Identifier Section |
| UPC | $\sim$ Universal Product Code |
| EAN | $\sim$ European Article Numbering |
| MyKad | $\sim$ Identity card for Malaysian |
| MD | $\sim$ Marine Department |
| DoF | $\sim$ Department of Fisheries |
| MMEA | $\sim$ Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency |
| MSO | $\sim$ Malaysian Shipping Ordinance |
| ON | $\sim$ Official Number |
| L | $\sim$ Length |
| B | $\sim$ Breadth |


| D | $\sim$ Depth |
| :---: | :--- |
| BIN | $\sim$ Boat Identification Number |
| IANA | $\sim$ Internet Assigned Numbers Authority |
| T | $\sim$ Draft |
| RFID | $\sim$ Radio Frequency Identification |

## CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background Study

In 2008 alone, there were 3117 boats licenses that were issued in Malaysia [1]. However, except for business purposes, most of boats were licensed or registered on voluntarily basis. For this reason, many boat owners who may acquire more than one boat take this opportunity to register only one boat, and at the same time apply this license number to another boat. Hence, the total number of 3117 is not actually representing the real amount of boat in operating in Malaysia waters as there were still many unregistered boats that can be easily seen at the jetty.

On the other hand, the present registration and licensing system used is not representative enough. This registration and license number can be easily be duplicated not only to other similar boat but also to different types of boats. The present registration system or license numbers gives very little information about the boat thus makes it easy to be manipulated and misused. There was several reported case of misuse of this identification number among the boat owner [2].

Therefore an identification system needs to be established in order to prevent the duplication of identification number. There is a need to propose a better
identification system that is able to represent the boat details more precisely. These details could include important information such as length, breadth, depth, GRT etc were considered to be included in order prevent the duplication of identification.

### 1.2 Problems Statement

In carrying out this research work, the following issues will be addressed;

1. What is the method used in the present identification systems of boats in Malaysia?
2. How effective is the present ID systems to represent the boat?
3. If improvement is needed, what will be a good identification system to be developed?

### 1.3 Objectives

The objectives of this project are as follows;

1. To determine the present status of identification system used to represent boats in Malaysia.
2. To propose a more comprehensive identification system to be used in future.

### 1.4 Scopes of Study

The scopes of this project are as follows;

1. Small boats built and operate in Malaysia.
2. Boat length of 24 m and below.
3. All type of construction materials.

### 1.5 Schedule of Research Activities

In order to carry out this project effectively, the research activities are scheduled as shown in Table 1.1. The research work consists of 14 task activities which include; conduct background study, study rules and regulations, prepare questionnaires, interview marine authorities (Marine and Fisheries Department), determine problems and improvements, conduct site visits, gather more information from books and journals, refer system used in other countries, make comparison study, propose an identification system, conduct verification survey, and do further improvement.

### 1.6 Research Methodology

More details study is required to produce a proper identification system. Most of the information is gathered from the internet, especially from Marine Department, and Fisheries Department Websites. From this information, it will give the overview background of the current situation.

First and foremost, there must be an understanding about the regulation involved regarding boat registration and licensing in Malaysia. It is a need to analyse and understand this regulation as this provision is governing the act of registration and licensing of marine vessel in Malaysia. The regulations that need to be viewed are Malaysian Shipping Ordinance 1952 [3], Boat Rules 1953 [4], Fisheries Act 1985 [5] and ISO Standard, ISO 10087:2006 Craft Identification Number [6].

A set of questionnaire is then produced for interview session which related to Marine Authorities such as Marine Department and Fisheries Department as they are the major player in maritime industry in Malaysia. This interview can be defined as qualitative survey where are only selected respondences will be interviewed and these represent the actual status of marine industry in Malaysia. This will give a clear view regarding present ID system used in Malaysia. From interview session, the problems and area that need any improvement can be determined.

Several site visits will be done to nearby marinas and jetty for collecting some boat photos, actual statistic of registered and unregistered boat, and meeting with boat owners in having their views.

More literature review is conducted from reliable resources such as books, journals, magazine etc to gain more information and ideas. All relevant data is recorded thoroughly.

The system used by other countries is also referred as extra information and comparison between systems were made. The gathered information is compared before a new identification system is developed. The ID format will then be proposed.

This proposed ID will then be distributed to the marine experts for comments and verification. Their comments will be recorded for any further improvement, if any. These steps are shown in the flowchart in Figure 1.1.

### 1.7 Expected Outcomes

It is expected that this research work will be able to provide;

1. A comprehensive ID system to represent a small boat uniquely and accurately.
2. The ID system that can be used to monitor small boat effectively due to uniformity / standardization without any conflict.

Besides that, this will provide some benefits to industry in the marine in a way more standard registration system can be implemented.
Table 1.1 Research activities

| No | Research Activities | Sem 1 Session 2008/09 |  |  |  |  |  | Sem 2 Session 2008/09 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| No | Researd Actuvies | July | Aug | Sep | Ot | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mac | Apr | Mei |
| 1 | Conduct badkground study |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 | Study Rules and Regulations |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 | Prepare Questionnaire |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4 | Interview Marine Authorities |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 | Determine problems and improvements |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6 | Conduct Site Visit |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7 | Gather more information from books, journals etc |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8 | Refer System Used in Other Countries |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9 | Make Comparison |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10 | Proposed an ID System |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11 | Verification Survey |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12 | Do Further Improvement (if any) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13 | Thesis Writing |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 14 | Presentation and Submission |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |



Figure 1.1 Research Methodology.

