



FLOAT SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

Electrical Wiring

1. Electrical wires must be of an approved type for which they are being used.
2. Electrical wires and devices must be of sufficient capacity.
3. Wiring shall be properly secured to the float to avoid mechanical damage.
4. All connections must be made with approved electrical devices.
5. All electrical circuits must be properly fused for the wire size.
6. All circuits above 30 volts shall be ungrounded.

Portable Generators

1. Where portable generators are used, they must be securely mounted on the float vehicle or other substantial base.
2. Approved insulation must separate generator from decorative material.
3. Such generators must be equipped with firmly-attached metal exhaust lines, installed to terminate either in a common exhaust, serving both vehicle and generator, or to the exterior of the float, in the same manner as the vehicle exhaust.

Basic Safety

1. Flame Proofing: All light decorative material must be effectively fire retardant. Satisfactory flame proofing is determined by holding a sample of the material in a vertical position and placing the flame of a match ½ inch below it. If the material ignites, it must extinguish itself when the flame is removed. This requirement shall apply only to combustible material, i.e., paper-mache, crepe paper, frame material, etc. Fresh cut greenery and flowers are excluded.
2. Paints: If applied to decorative material, must be U.L. approved fire retardant and water base paint.
3. Fire Extinguishers: A minimum of one (1) U.L. approved 2A10BC rated multi-purpose dry chemical extinguisher must be carried on the float, plus an additional 2A10BC extinguisher if a gasoline-powered generator is used. All drivers and float escorts should be familiar with the location and correct use of the extinguisher. It must be carried on

the float in an easily accessible position to the driver. All fire extinguishers shall be sealed, tagged, and dated within the last 12 months.

4. **NO SMOKING ON FLOATS** – Open flame displays are prohibited.
5. Float vehicle must be properly serviced for gasoline, water, oil; tires checked for legal tread depth and pressure; battery in good condition prior to entry into the parade.
6. Extra gasoline, other than in the vehicle's tank **CANNOT** be carried on the float.
7. Each standing float rider must have a body support and an approved automotive seat belt. Each seated rider must have a body support or hand hold. Wiring or tying personnel to float is prohibited. Seat belts must be worn on the outside of user's costume.
8. Brake System: Approved hydraulic brakes on at least two wheels shall be provided. It is recommended that hydraulic brakes be provided on all four wheels. An approved manual emergency brake system on at least two wheels shall also be provided. Both systems shall be in good working order. MICRO LOCK BRAKE SYSTEMS ARE NOT APPROVED FOR EMERGENCY BRAKES.
9. Exhaust Pipe: All exhaust pipes shall extend at least one (1) foot beyond all decorations. Where pipe passes through the float decorations, it must be covered with pipe lagging or wrapped with asbestos tape.
10. Fuel Systems: All fuel tanks shall be standard automotive gas tanks properly secured and vented to the outside of the float. Boat tanks are not acceptable.
11. Towing: Tow rings or cables shall be provided in the front of the float. They shall be readily accessible without removing portions of the float structure and be of sufficient strength to tow the float at any time.
12. Driver Escape: Interior construction must allow the vehicle driver means of making a reasonable rapid escape in case of emergency.
13. Driver's Vision: Floats should be designed to provide full exposure of the driver's hand, with 180° vision to the front and sides of the float.
14. Ventilation: Floats shall be provided with adequate natural or forced air ventilation in the driver's compartment.
15. License: All float drivers operating motorized equipment must have a valid driver's license.