

Marina Safety Electrical Tips



- ✦ Use only UL marine approved cord sets and connectors. Don't use extension cords at the dock. Turn off all electrical loads before connecting cords.
- ✦ Don't hook up if you see burn marks or if your cord set won't firmly connect to the power pedestal.
- ✦ View cord sets as preventive maintenance items that are routinely replaced.
- ✦ Cords connecting your boat and the power pedestal should be arranged so that there is slack to allow for boat movement, and placed so that cords can't be crushed, chafed or touching the water.
- ✦ If you find a cord set strained or damaged in any way, replace it immediately.
- ✦ Things you bring from home to use on your boat are not always suitable for boat use. The movement of the boat, the marine environment, and the fact that some appliances are intended for unattended, extended use can make home appliances risky. Space heaters, microwave ovens, vacuum cleaners, home battery chargers, and even lava lamps have been the cause of boat fires. If you use them, make sure they are unplugged or shore power is shut off when you're not around.
- ✦ It's a good idea to have double pole breakers and a polarity meter in your AC panel. If the marina does have the polarity reversed, you'll know it and juice will be cut off in the event of any shorts you might have in any appliances. If you have older style single pole breakers, turning off the breaker won't stop the flow of electricity if the polarity is reversed.
- ✦ When connecting or disconnecting power at your boat, always make sure the power is first disconnected at the dock pedestal.