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# MEDIA RELEASE

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For Immediate Release: Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> May 2013

## SLST and MaST launch Boatwise smartphone app

Surf Life Saving Tasmania and Marine and Safety Tasmania have teamed up to create a smartphone app to support Tasmanians who recreate on, in or around the water. The app brings relevant information, legislative requirements, craft and activity specific checklists and weather all together to encourage more Tasmanian's to get out and safely enjoy our beautiful inland and coastal waterways.

Ian Ross, MAST's Recreational Boating Officer says the app is a major step forward in promoting recreational boating safety outcomes. "Whether you are a keen boater who likes to fish, scuba dive, prefer to jet ski, sail, kayak or simply go cruising, you can now be prepared with customised checklists and videos to ensure you are always ready and safe on the water." Mr. Ross said.

"An important feature for users of this application will be the ability to complete activity checklists specific to their need, all from the convenience of their mobile device. The checklist will assist users in identifying potential dangers and minimising risk associated with their chosen leisure activities. Importantly the app will also notify your nominated onshore emergency contacts", he said.

Tony Van den Enden, General Manager of SLST, is hoping the app will further reduce the number of rescues his volunteers are involved in. "The checklist will be designed to cater for a variety of experience levels and will work towards minimising risk and maximising safety whilst providing the user with relevant and specific information on weather, location rules/regulations in relation to equipment (craft or vessel) and activity", he said.

"The application will draw on various database repositories (including GIS specific information) and the Bureau of Meteorology with a series of rules to push notifications to users that will increase their safety, enjoyment and awareness and hopefully encourage more Tasmanian's to participate in aquatic activities" Mr. Van den Enden said.

Features of the app include:

- Plan and save your trips
- Get weather forecasts for your trip
- Find boat ramps (in Tasmania, Australia)
- Send an email of your trip to your onshore contact
- Essential safety checklists relevant to your location and water sport
- Maintain your vessels with a maintenance checklist
- Create due dates and sync with Reminders App
- Catalogue your vessels
- Share your trip with friends and family
- Video safety tips
- Receive weather notifications 48 hours before and the morning of your trip starts
- Receive a reminder to run through your checklist the night before your trip

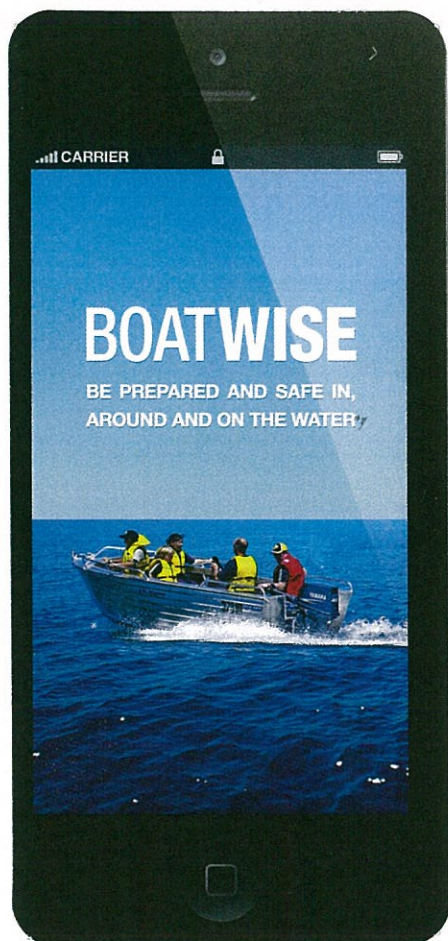
### **Interview and Photo Opportunity**

The app will be launched at AGFEST, Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May and available on the iTunes store

### **For further information please contact:**

Tony van den Enden, Surf Life Saving Tasmania on 0417 338 706, Ian Ross, Marine and Safety Tasmania on 0457 826 975





# BOATWISE



Available on the  
App Store

- Plan and save your trips
- Get weather forecasts for your trip
- Find boat ramps in Tasmania
- Email trip details to onshore contacts
- Essential safety checklists



**MAST**

MARINE and SAFETY TASMANIA  
*making boating better*