

Diver and Diving Supervisor Certification

This information note updates IMCA D 05/07 and supplements sections 5.1/5.1.5 of IMCA D 014 Rev. 1 – IMCA International Code of Practice for Offshore Diving

I Diver Certificates

The following certificates are currently recognised by IMCA for offshore diving under the IMCA International Code of Practice for Offshore Diving (IMCA D 014):

A Surface-Supplied Diver Certificates:

- ◆ Australian Diver Accreditation Scheme Part 3
- ◆ Canadian Category I Diver
- ◆ Canadian Surface Supplied Mixed Gas Diver to 70m
- ◆ Canadian Unrestricted Surface Supplied Diver to 50m
- ◆ French Class 2 Mention A
- ◆ India – Commercial Surface Supply Course, Kochi (post September 2002)
- ◆ Netherlands Part I – Surface Dependent Diver (issued up to 2002) ***
- ◆ Netherlands Certificaat Duikarbeid Categorie B ***
- ◆ New Zealand Construction Diver Part 3**
- ◆ Norwegian NPD surface diver
- ◆ South African Class II
- ◆ TSA or MSC Basic Air Diving
- ◆ UK HSE Surface Supplied (with offshore top up)
- ◆ UK HSE Part I
- ◆ UK Transitional Part I (issued between 1/7/81-31/12/81)
- ◆ IMCA Surface Supplied Diver:
 - Certificates issued with the approval of IMCA by four organisations – Diving Diseases Research Centre, Interdive, KB Associates and the National Hyperbaric Centre – following competence assessment of experienced surface supplied divers in accordance with IMCA D 26/01. The approval of these organisations was given following a detailed review of their assessment procedures. These organisations are required to inform IMCA before any assessments are performed.
 - Certificates issued under the 'Verification of experienced ACDE surface supplied and bell divers' undertaken by The Ocean Corporation with the approval of IMCA

B Closed Bell Divers Certificates:

- ◆ Australian Diver Accreditation Scheme Part 4
- ◆ Canadian Category 3 Diver*
- ◆ Canadian Bell Diver
- ◆ French Class 3 Mention A
- ◆ Netherlands Part 2 – Bell Diver (issued up to 2002) ***
- ◆ Netherlands Certificaat Duikarbeid Categorie C ***
- ◆ New Zealand Construction Diver Part 4**
- ◆ Norwegian NPD Bell diver
- ◆ South African Class I
- ◆ TSA or MSC bell diving
- ◆ UK HSE Part II
- ◆ UK HSE Closed Bell
- ◆ UK Transitional Part II (issued between 1/7/81-31/12/81)
- ◆ IMCA Bell Diver
 - Certificates issued under the 'Verification of experienced ACDE surface supplied and bell divers' undertaken by The Ocean Corporation with the approval of IMCA

* This list has been updated to remove Canadian Category 2 Diver – category 2 refers to a mixed gas diver who may have no training or experience in closed bell diving so is not considered an appropriate qualification.

** New Zealand certificates have also changed, with those in use previously have been withdrawn. The above lists have been updated to show the new Part 3 and Part 4 certificates in the place of those previously recognised.

*** Netherlands certificates changed with the introduction of the Arbeowet regulations (see information note IMCA D 05/03). The previous certificates 'Part 1' and 'Part 2' have been replaced by 'Category B' and 'Category C' from January 2003.

C ACDE Certificates issued since 1993

Certificates issued by US training schools which are accredited by the Association of Commercial Diving Educators (ACDE) in respect of training/assessment performed in accordance with US Standard ANSI/ACDE-01-1993 and its successor standard ANSI/ACDE-01-1998. These schools are independently audited and certificates from them can be accepted as showing suitable basic training. Subsequent diving experience needs to be demonstrated by logbook entries. A list of currently accredited schools can be found at www.acde.us/schools.htm

NO OTHER DIVER TRAINING CERTIFICATES ARE CURRENTLY RECOGNISED BY IMCA

2 Diving Supervisors

2.1 IMCA Offshore Diving Supervisor Certificates

IMCA has run the IMCA Offshore Diving Supervisor Scheme for a number of years.

Two levels of IMCA supervisor certificate are available:

- ◆ IMCA Air Diving Supervisor
- ◆ IMCA Bell Diving Supervisor

These certificates are **only** issued by IMCA.

For a supervisor to hold an IMCA diving supervisor certificate, he must sit and pass an IMCA examination. To be eligible to sit the examination, he must:

- ◆ meet minimum entry criteria (including holding the appropriate diver qualification and having appropriate experience);
- ◆ complete and pass an IMCA-approved trainee diving supervisor training course;
- ◆ then complete a minimum number of panel hours under direct supervision offshore as a trainee supervisor;
- ◆ be recommended by his company following satisfactory offshore reports.

A number of organisations are approved by IMCA to run the trainee diving supervisor courses – a list of currently approved organisations is available on our website at www.imca-int.com/training/ These training organisations normally issue their own certificates on successful completion of the course. Such certificates are **not** valid diving supervisor certificates and only show completion of the trainee diving supervisor course.

2.2 Comparable Certificates

IMCA has entered into recognition arrangements with the following organisations:

- ◆ Australian Diver Accreditation Scheme (ADAS);
- ◆ Diver Certification Board of Canada (DCBC);
- ◆ Netherlands Diving Centre.

Under these arrangements, the following certificates are recognised by IMCA as being appropriate for diving supervisors for the purposes of compliance with IMCA guidance:

- ◆ ADAS offshore diving supervisor
- ◆ DCBC offshore air diving supervisor
- ◆ NDC supervisor (for working in Dutch waters only – for those working in other waters there is a special arrangement for gaining IMCA certification)

Full details on these arrangements are set out in information note IMCA D 04/07 (revised).