

Diver and Diving Supervisor Certification

This information note updates IMCA D 09/09 and supplements sections 5.1 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
- ◆ Brazilian Curso de Especialização em Mergulho para Praças
- ◆ Brazilian Curso Especial de Escafandria para Oficiais
- ◆ Brazilian Curso Básico de Mergulho Raso Profissional
 - Brazilian certificates to be supported by a Brazilian Navy stamped divers logbook
- ◆ 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 Certificaet 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 Diving 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
- ◆ Brazilian Curso Especial de Mergulho Saturado
 - Brazilian certificate to be supported by a Brazilian Navy stamped divers logbook
- ◆ Canadian Category 3 Diver*
- ◆ Canadian Bell Diver
- ◆ French Class 3 Mention A
- ◆ Netherlands Part 2 – Bell Diver (issued up to 2002)***
- ◆ Netherlands Certificaet 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.

Diving supervisor and LST certificates issued by AODC (which merged to form IMCA in 1995) remain valid (except for those listed in IMCA D 07/03 – *IMCA Offshore Diving Supervisor and LST Certification Schemes: Withdrawn IMCA/AODC Certificates* – as subsequently updated) and are not replaced with IMCA certificates.

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 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 08/09](#).