

Diver Training Certificates – IMCA Acceptance Criteria

Acceptance criteria for diver certificates to be recognised by the International Marine Contractors Association (IMCA) for offshore diving under IMCA D 014 – IMCA international code of practice for offshore diving:

- 1. There must be credible government or government appointed oversight of the training regime for the qualification with a single point of contact.
- 2. The government or government appointed bodies must undertake regular inspections/audits of all training sites and facilities delivering recognised training. The inspections/audits must also cover the schools' emergency response plans together with the planned maintenance of diving plant and equipment used for diver training.
- 3. There must be a robust health and safety regime operating at all training sites and facilities delivering recognised training.
- 4. The qualification must be issued by the national government or government appointed agency, not the training facility.
- 5. For surface supplied diver training, the training must cover the minimum training requirements as laid out by IMCA (see information note IMCA D 08/17 IMCA minimum criteria for surface supplied diver training).
- 6. For saturation diver training, the training must cover the minimum course requirements contained in the International Diving Regulators and Certifiers Forum (IDRCF) document entitled *Closed bell diver training*.
- 7. The certifying organisation must be a part of either the IDRCF, the European Diving Technology Committee (EDTC) or another recognised international commercial diver training standards organisation.

Note: IMCA has made some special diver certification arrangements for unregulated areas of the world (see information note IMCA D 16/16 – Diver and diving supervisor certification).

Revocation of IMCA recognition

Should it be the case that a qualification is no longer deemed suitable, then IMCA recognition will be revoked and the single point of contact will be informed. Examples of reasons to revoke IMCA recognition of a diver training certificate include, but are not limited to:

- Changes to a training regime that in IMCA's opinion make the training/qualification unsuitable.
- Evidence that divers are being issued with IMCA recognised certificates, but have not been trained/assessed to the agreed level required.
- Evidence of inconsistent standards of training between schools training and assessing that qualification which could affect safety of diving.
- Failure of the government appointed bodies to undertake regular inspections/audits of training sites and facilities delivering training

The qualification will be reconsidered for approval if it can be demonstrated that appropriate remedial action has been taken.

For more details, please contact:

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