

In a significant step forward for the offshore marine construction industry, IMCA launched an App-based continuing professional development (CPD) scheme for the safety critical role of Diving Supervisors in 2020.

IMCA started developing the App in 2018 and conducted extensive industry trials in 2019. In April 2020 we launched the system to the industry worldwide on a voluntary basis. The feedback was extremely encouraging and led to CPD becoming mandatory for all IMCA Diving Supervisors in 2021. We have communicated and promoted plans to our member companies and industry stakeholders extensively over the last few years.

CPD is mandatory for Diving Supervisors from 2021

From early 2021 all IMCA Diving Supervisors must complete the following:

1. Register for the IMCA Diving Supervisor CPD Scheme on our website and download the App from the Apple or Google App stores.
2. Complete (if not already completed) the quarterly knowledge Units issued during 2020. Each Unit has a short test before moving to the next Unit.
3. Complete any knowledge Units already released during 2021.

The Scheme is open to all qualified IMCA and AODC Diving Supervisors plus qualified Diving Supervisors from the Australian Diver Accreditation Scheme (ADAS) and the Diver Certification Board of Canada (DCBC).

- Supervisors can register to join the CPD App programme at any time.
- IMCA Supervisors are now required to keep up-to-date in the manner required by the scheme.

The App can be used across many mobile devices and operating systems, on or offline, allowing users the flexibility of choosing when and where to complete the relevant modules.

This CPD will help ensure all supervisors keep up-to date with the latest developments in IMCA guidance, undoubtedly leading to long term improvements in diver safety.



Online verification

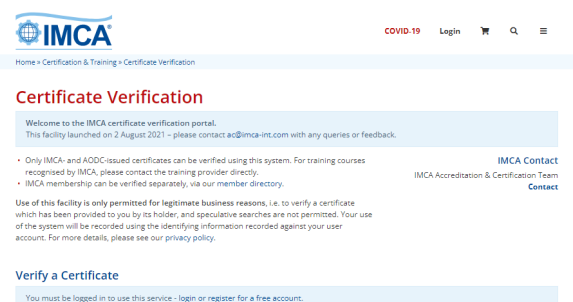
In August 2021, IMCA launched a new online facility as part of the Association's digital transformation programme to enable members to access verification services 24 hours a day. This facility covers all certificate types currently issued: Air Diving Supervisor, Bell Diving Supervisor, Life Support Technician, DP Company Authority and DP Trials & Assurance Practitioner. New initiatives such as Accredited Diving System Inspectors will also benefit from the service.

A search form is available for registered website users to check the status of any certificate provided to them by its holder. The existing option of contacting the IMCA certification team will remain available during London office hours.

The verification portal attracted over 500 users in its first few weeks. www/imca-int.com/certification/verify

The online verification facility also confirms the in-date status for continuing professional development (CPD) which became mandatory for diving supervisors at the beginning of 2021.

Users of the IMCA Diving CPD App will continue to be able to share detailed CPD progress, with the existing app function redirected to the new facility automatically.



CPD Subjects

A list of some of the subjects covered to date in the CPD included below:

- Bell Atmosphere Contamination
- Bell Batteries
- Control of Bell Blow-Down
- COVID Guidance
- CPR Success Story
- DDC Viewport Failure
- Decompression Illness (DCI)
- VO₂ Max
- Diver Recovery Realtime
- Diving in contaminated waters
- Dropped weight near diving bell
- Equivalent Air Depth (EAD)
- Failure of EGS valve stem
- Flying After Diving
- Fouled Diver Umbilical
- Gas Analysis
- Guidance on Surface Swimmers
- Minimum Gas Offshore
- Hat Hygiene
- Use of Bell Outer Doors
- Surface Supplied Mixed Gas Diving Operations
- HP Waterjetting
- Hyperbaric Evacuation Plans (HEP)
- Permit to Work [PTW]
- Physics Review
- Dealing with a Pneumothorax
- Rebreather bailout systems
- Risk Management
- ROV/Diver SIMOPs
- Minimum gas required offshore
- Scaffolding and diving
- SRP Diving Ops
- TUP Safe Practices
- Umbilical distance calculations
- Subsea Lifting Operations - Considerations
- Subsea Lifting Operations - Diving
- Logbooks and record keeping
- Management of Change
- Hat Hygiene
- Use of Bell Outer Doors
- Isolations: Lock Out / Tag Out
- Diver Fatality During Subsea Lifting Operation
- Development and execution of realistic emergency drills
- Trapped Diver Umbilical Handling Incident
- Use of Open Parachute Type Underwater Air Lift Bags
- Effect of Underwater Currents on Divers Performance and Safety
- IMCAD014 IMCA International Code of Practice for Offshore Diving
- Sustained Load Cracking in Aluminium Cylinders
- The use of Whip Checks following a Nitrogen hose failure during transfer of gas

For the latest information please visit our website.

To cover running costs, there will be a nominal £100 annual fee per person for 2021 for the scheme.