

ADAS Newsletter Issue 36, August 2023

Introduction

Welcome to Issue 36 of the ADAS Newsletter

In this issue we share an important update about a Victorian company facing significant fines for safety breaches in diving operations.

The Safety article gives details of three IMCA Safety Flashes and a special awareness campaign on hand safety produced by IMCA.

NOPSEMA's Community and Environment Reference Group is seeking new members, including from the aquaculture and fisheries industries, First Nations communities and those involved in marine conservation.

In ADAS news we give a quick refresher on how to check certifications on ADAS cards, including details on what information is needed for verifications from ADAS.

As always, your comments and ideas for future issues of the ADAS Newsletter are welcome.



Amanda Sordes

Executive Director

Diving company fined \$730,000 for safety breaches

A Victorian diving company that conducts water tank and irrigation inspections and repairs has been fined \$730,000 by WorkSafe for repeatedly putting workers' lives in danger.

Underwater Inspection Services (UIS) pleaded guilty in the Melbourne County Court to seven charges in relation to five incidents in 2018. It pleaded guilty to failing to ensure workers were qualified to work in confined spaces and failing to ensure employees understood rescue procedures and emergency plans.

In a statement, WorkSafe executive director of health and safety, Narelle Beer, said she was astounded by the scope of the offending, given how naturally risky professional diving was as a job.

Occupational divers are reminded that the WHS regulator is the best avenue to signal safety concerns or compliance breaches. You can find your State WHS regulator contact details on the [SafeWork Australia website](#). It is our collective duty to ensure that dangerous activities are reported so compliance action can be taken.

[Find out more about the safety breach and case outcomes here.](#)

[Click here for the article online](#)



Safety

Three safety incidents have been reported recently, and IMCA has published an article on hand and finger injury awareness and prevention.

- IMCA SF 13/23: [Loss of redundancy in diving bell launch and recovery \(LARS\) PLC system](#)
- IMCA SF 13/23: [Hand injury in medical airlock](#)
- IMCA SF 18/23: [Restricted air supply to diver](#)



Hand and finger injury awareness

After a spate of hand and finger injuries being reported in IMCA Safety Flashes (diving and non-diving related), IMCA has published a short article about hand and finger safety, [available here](#).

[Click here for the article online](#)

Verifying ADAS Cards

Employers and contractors are reminded to always read both sides of ADAS cards to check the certifications of the card holder, and submit verification enquires to ADAS by email.

Verification Requests

ADAS encourages contractors to contact us in order to verify the authenticity of ADAS certifications. While the vast majority of ADAS certification holders are genuine, there has been an increase in forgeries over the last year which have been discovered by contractors requesting verification of certifications.

Certificate and card verifications can be requested from employers and contractors by submitting an email to ADAS. Send your email to enquiries@adas.org.au and:

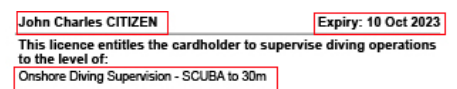
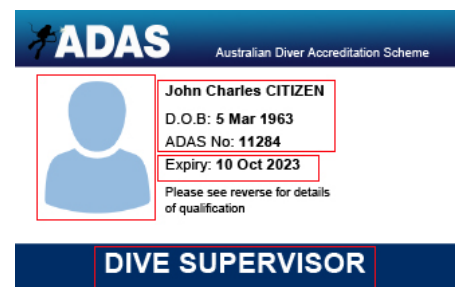
- Ensure the email is sent from your business account – we will not provide any information to individuals without a business email address
- Include the front and back of the ADAS card
- Include details of the card holder i.e., name, date of birth, ADAS certifications held

Checking ADAS Cards

When viewing an ADAS card, always check both sides of the card to see all relevant details about the person and the certifications they hold.

As indicated in red on the images at right, the front of an ADAS card displays the card holders photograph, personal details, card expiry date and certification type.

The back, or reverse, of an ADAS card displays the card holder's name, specific certifications held, any endorsements held, and the card expiry date.



More information about the details on ADAS cards [can be viewed here](#).

[Click here for the article online](#)

Call for new members – NOPSEMA Community and Environment Reference Group

NOPSEMA is inviting expressions of interest to join their Community and Environment Reference Group (CERG), particularly those who can provide local community or regional perspectives.

The CERG facilitates direct engagement between NOPSEMA and community stakeholders in order to share community perspectives on offshore petroleum environmental management and administration of the Environment Regulations.



NOPSEMA is seeking to appoint members to the CERG whom have experience in the following:

- cultural heritage and First Nations communities
- conservation advocacy
- fisheries in the mid-west and south-west of Western Australia

They are also seeking members who can provide local community or regional perspectives from the north-west and northern regions of Australia.

To find out more and submit an expression of interest, [visit the NOPSEMA website](#).

[Click here for the article online](#)

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