

## ADAS Newsletter, Issue 27 December 2020

### Introduction

As another year comes to a close, ADAS would like to not only wish you all the very best for the end of year and the holiday season, but also to give our thanks for the incredible support and understanding we have received from the hyperbaric industry during a year that has been unlike any other in ADAS' history. It is heartening to see that so many people from such varied backgrounds and locations in the world can all come together in tough times.

I also want to thank those of you who have welcomed me to the position of ADAS Executive Director. COVID-19 has certainly given me a bumpy introduction to the position, but I am ready for any challenges 2021 might bring and remain hopeful that we can weather this storm.

In the ADAS newsletter this month we introduce you to two new ADAS Board members; provide details of IMCA's supervisor Continued Professional Development program; share Safety Alerts issued by IMCA; invite you to provide feedback about ADAS course development; give you an update on COVID-19 impacted ADAS training; introduce ADAS' latest photo competition; and tell you about a new renewal reminder system.

All of us here at ADAS wish each of you and your families a peaceful end to a very tumultuous year, and a new year full of good health and prosperity.

The ADAS office will be closed over the Christmas and New Year period from Thursday the 24th of December until Monday the 4th of January 2021.



Amanda Sordes

ADAS Executive Director



### New ADAS Board Members

ADAS and the ADAS Board of Directors recently welcomed Cliff Coulson-Bonner and Wendy Chambers to the organisation.

Wendy and Cliff both have extensive experience in the offshore diving industry with both having held project manager positions for offshore contractors.



Cliff also draws on his 39+ years of maritime experience in oil and gas, commercial, and military sectors; and has extensive Workplace Health and Safety planning, compliance and project reporting experience.



Wendy's 20+ years of offshore experience is extended by knowledge gained from Master of Business Administration (MBA) and Master of Marine Science qualifications.

[Click here for the article online](#)

## IMCA Continued Professional Development

In April 2020 the International Marine Contractors Association (IMCA) introduced the Continued Professional Development (CPD) program which allows offshore supervisors to maintain knowledge of industry best practice and to provide competency evidence.

The CPD program comprises of a series of 'Knowledge Units' which include learning material and quizzes, there are four (4) units issued every calendar year with supervisors expected to complete all units each year in order to show continued proficiency. The program is housed in an app which can be accessed from any device and has been developed to be as user-friendly as possible, providing supervisors flexibility to complete the program when and where best suits them.

The program has been welcomed in the offshore industry with IMCA receiving positive feedback from those who voluntarily completed it during the trial period. Based on the response from supervisors and employers, the program will become mandatory for all IMCA supervisors from the 1st of January 2021.

After a number of discussions and research, the ADAS Board has elected to integrate the CPD app into renewal requirements for ADAS offshore supervisors, both Air and Bell. This will allow ADAS offshore supervisors to continue to maintain the same level of knowledge as their IMCA counterparts and retain a competitive edge in the offshore market.

To align with the IMCA roll-out of the app, as of the 1st of January 2021 ADAS offshore supervisors will also be expected to complete the CPD program as part of their renewal application process. It is recommended that



offshore supervisors complete the available Knowledge Units before submitting a renewal application in order to have their application processed without delay. Applicants can provide evidence of completed Knowledge Units by sharing their progress with ADAS or submitting a Completion Certificate if they have completed all four Knowledge Units in each calendar year.

To assist ADAS offshore supervisors with the cost of completing the program, ADAS will reduce the renewal application fee for offshore supervisors, both Air and Bell, by AUD \$150.

See the IMCA [Diving Supervisor CPD](#) page for more details and links.

[Click here for the article online](#)

---

## Safety

In the last half of 2020 the International Marine Contractors Association (IMCA) has issued a number of safety alerts relevant to the commercial diving industry, including the fatality of two military divers in separate incidents.



[IMCA Safety Flash 25/20](#) Emergency Lithium battery failed catastrophically in a diving bell.

[IMCA Safety Flash 27/20](#) Near miss: sudden Loss of air from diver bail-out bottle.

[IMCA Safety Flash 30/20](#) Two deaths of military divers.

[IMCA Safety Flash 33/20](#) Air cylinders – differences in working pressure and valve types.

[Click here for the article online](#)

---

## ADAS Course Re-Accreditation

ADAS is currently reviewing its accredited courses and you have an opportunity to have your say.

The full suite of ADAS accredited courses are currently being reviewed in order to apply for re-accreditation with the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) in early 2021. Part of this process is to gain input from ADAS certification holders regarding ADAS courses, to do this there will be a survey sent out in the New Year with a particular focus on training and assessment strategies. We value your input, so please take the time to fill it out and contribute to continuous improvement of the ADAS courses.

Please contact ADAS if you would like to be involved in a more in-depth review of the current accredited course units or the related training and assessment strategies. While the diving unit content is set by both Australian Standards and the international reciprocal recognition arrangements, there are opportunities for input into new specialisations or the remotely operated vehicle, chamber system, hyperbaric tunnelling and rescue and recovery specialisations.

If you would like more information about the course re-accreditation please contact Bronwen Campbell on [bronwen@adas.org.au](mailto:bronwen@adas.org.au) or send an enquiry via the contact page on the ADAS website.

[Click here for the article online](#)

---

## COVID-19 Update

With COVID-19 related restrictions beginning to ease in many parts of the world, some ADAS Accredited Training Establishments (ATEs) are welcoming students back for face-to-face training.

The return to a more normalised schedule of training is a timely relief to ATEs and many students alike. While there are still travel related restrictions and requirements in place for many countries, there is enough flexibility for the following ATEs to resume face-to-face hyperbaric training from early 2021:

- Commercial Dive Academy (Tasmania, Australia)
- Medical Training Solutions (Western Australia, Australia)
- Professional Divers Training Academy (Victoria, Australia)
- Subsea Training Centre (New Zealand)
- Underwater Training Centre South Australia (South Australia, Australia)

For information about course dates, duration, and enrolment requirements, go to the individual ATE websites which can be accessed from the [Training Schools page](#) of the ADAS website.

[Click here for the article online](#)

---

## ADAS Photo Competition

Calling all photographers... Do you have an eye for interesting photos? Would you love to see your images in an ADAS calendar? Then we need you!

ADAS is looking for a collection of diving related photos that will become the ADAS 2022 calendar. To find the ideal photos for the calendar, we are running a photo competition from 1st January until the 30th of June 2021. People whose photos are selected to go into the calendar will receive a free ADAS divers/supervisors logbook and a copy of the 2022 ADAS calendar when its printed.



The images selected for the calendar will be ones with a clear connection to commercial diving, this could be worksites, jobs, or wildlife encounters you have had while on the job.

If you have photos to share with ADAS please email them to [rae@adas.org.au](mailto:rae@adas.org.au), successful entrants will be announced in early July 2021.

We're looking forward to seeing some of the exciting places and stories you've captured on camera!

[Click here for the article online](#)

---

## ADAS Renewal Reminders

ADAS has now moved to a fully electronic renewal reminders system, so please ensure your email address is up-to-date with ADAS to help us provide this service to you.

Renewal reminders are sent to all ADAS certification holders two months before their certification is due to expire (three months for DMT holders). This used to be a paper-based system but there were often issues with letters being returned to ADAS unclaimed, or going missing in the mail. To improve our service to you, we have now moved to an electronic system where renewal reminders will be emailed.

To help ADAS provide this service, please ensure that your email address is up-to-date. You can do this by contacting ADAS directly by emailing Janet on [janet@adas.org.au](mailto:janet@adas.org.au) or submitting an enquiry via the contact page on the ADAS website.

[Click here for the article online](#)

---

**Australian Diver Accreditation Scheme**

526 Duncan Road Dunoon NSW 2480

Tel: +61 2 6689 5656

[www.adas.org.au](http://www.adas.org.au) | [enquiries@adas.org.au](mailto:enquiries@adas.org.au)