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## ADAS Newsletter Issue 40, December 2024

### Introduction

Welcome to Issue 40 of the ADAS Newsletter

In this issue we share information about the recent decision to no longer accept French certifications for direct crossover to ADAS.

In ADAS news, we announce the upcoming launch of the Offshore Air Divers Task Book, and seek expressions of interest for a position on the ADAS Board of Directors.

We also share updates from two ADAS Accredited Training Establishments, as they welcome new students and advance relationships across industry, and share information about the options for Offshore Supervisor candidates to use the ADAS Simulators to build up panel time and demonstrate competency.

Finally, the safety article in this issue gives details of an incident involving an unplanned release of gas.

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

Christmas closure: The ADAS office will be closed from 5pm on Friday 20th of December 2024 until Monday 6th of January 2025. We wish you and your families a happy and safe festive season.

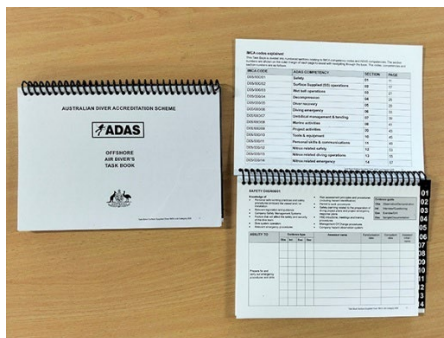


Amanda Sordes

Executive Director

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### ADAS Updates



#### **ADAS will launch an Offshore Air Divers Task Book early 2025.**

ADAS is excited to announce that our new Offshore Air Divers Task Book will be launched in early 2025. The task book is designed to be used by divers working offshore as a portable record of their competencies and skills, verified by assessors in the workplace.

Developed through consultation with industry, it is intended to fill an identified need for a portable record of skills that have been assessed in different workplaces and under different employers.

The task book is modelled on similar personnel competency records completed by offshore divers but is designed to be portable across workplaces and employers.

The task book lists Air Diver competencies from the IMCA Guidance on Competence Assurance and Assessment, with the aligned knowledge, abilities and evidence guides.

To support portability, the task book has sections for recording details of assessors who sign off on competencies, and space for each competency to be assessed and verified multiple times. It can also be used to record training undertaken and qualifications and certifications acquired. Printed at A5 size in a flip-out format on heavyweight paper, the task book is designed to be physically durable and easy to transport.

A prototype has been produced and distributed to industry stakeholders for feedback, with the intention of the final product becoming available to purchase from ADAS in 2025.

## ADAS Activities

### Internal and External Stakeholder Engagement and Participation

- Standards Australia participation: four meetings
- ADAS Board of Directors: one online meeting in December 2024

### Training Materials Update

- Two ADAS staff attended the MoodleMoot Australia 2024 conference in Melbourne in November, learning new and exciting developments in the Moodle online Learning Management System (LMS) used by ADAS across four of our learning websites including the Exam Bank and Online Revision Centre, and ways to improve user experience and content delivery.

### ADAS Accredited Training Establishment (ATE) support

- Two school audits completed
- 1 extension to scope

[Read this article online](#)

## ADAS Board Member Positions Available



ADAS is currently accepting Expressions of Interest to join the Board of Directors. The ADAS Board is comprised of voluntary members and meets four times per year, including three virtual evening meetings and a face-to-face meeting every August.

The Board is comprised of professionals from across the hyperbaric industry, including defence, offshore industry, medicine, unions, and private enterprise.

For this current position, we are particularly interested to receive Expressions of Interest (EOI) from candidates from diverse backgrounds, ideally with experience and knowledge in the following fields:

- Police diving
- Aquaculture
- Legal
- Accountancy or financial management

To find out more about the position and the role of the ADAS Board and its members, contact [Amanda Sordes](#)

[Visit the ADAS Board of Directors page](#)

[Read this article online](#)

## ADAS Schools Updates

The easing of barriers to global travel in the past 24 months has seen an increase in activity at the ADAS schools. We share exciting news from CDA who have recently received donated equipment from Shelf Subsea, and from UTCSA who report a positive uptick in student diversity.

### Commercial Dive Academy (CDA)



*Above: Alan Strong, CDA and Peter Evans, Shelf Subsea*

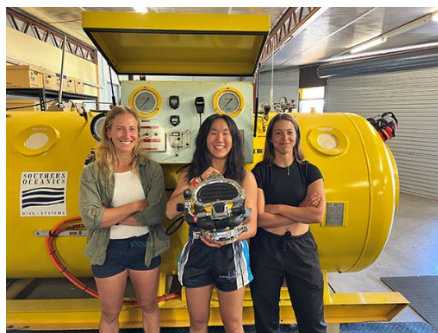
Now home to the only International Diving Regulators and Certifiers Forum (IDRCF) recognised Saturation Diver training facility, CDA has strengthened their industry ties and received support from Shelf Subsea Australia in the form of being gifted offshore air diving equipment. This equipment is invaluable to CDA, allowing it to further ensure compliance with offshore standards.

Alan Strong from CDA said “In our Diver training industry we get a lot of talk from companies how they like to support the training schools, and for the first time ever, we have Peter Evans, the Managing Director from Shelf Subsea Australia, actually put his hand deep into Shelf’s pockets and offer huge financial and technical assistance by enabling the Commercial Dive Academy, Australia to lift their training equipment up to real offshore standards with a gift of a full Offshore Air Dive spread ... It is the most generous contribution towards lifting the Diver Training equipment standards we have heard of in this century. Recognition and thanks must go out to Peter Evans and Shelf Subsea for this selfless act.”

The inventory includes containerised DDC, 3 diver control panel including video system and cameras, comms boxes, umbilicals and a matching full machinery container with HPU, HP compressor and LP compressor including a 100KVA generator to run it all, a heavy duty truck trailer to move plant and equipment and a 20ft gas reclaim system to assist CDA in meeting the latest IMCA guidance on the use of gas reclaim hats during saturation diver training.

[Visit the Commercial Dive Academy website](#)

### Underwater Training Centre South Australia (UTCSA)



*Above: Recent graduates at UTCSA*

#### **Female Divers Excel in ADAS Occupational SSBA Certification**

An impressive 25% of the latest ADAS SSBA to 30m training course held at Underwater Training Centre – South Australia were women, marking an encouraging development for diversity in occupational diving. Three women have successfully completed their ADAS Part 1 and 2 certifications, representing a significant step forward in expanding representation within the occupational diving industry.

The successful certification of these skilled female divers demonstrates that the traditionally male-dominated field is opening new doors for all talented individuals. With diverse career paths spanning offshore operations, underwater construction, marine archaeology, scientific research, and more, the occupational diving industry offers rewarding opportunities for qualified professionals regardless of gender.

“The increasing participation of women in occupational diving certification programs reflects the industry’s evolution towards greater inclusivity,” says Dafydd Phillips, who recently took ownership of Underwater

Training Centre – South Australia. “As the new owner and manager of UTCSA, I’m particularly proud to see these successful candidates demonstrate the same high levels of skill, dedication, and professional capability that we expect from all our certified divers.”

This achievement represents more than individual success—it serves as inspiration for other women considering careers in occupational diving. As the industry continues to grow and diversify, the presence of skilled female divers helps create a more balanced and dynamic workforce in underwater operations.

ADAS runs a mentoring program for women entering the occupational diving industry, where they can connect with mentors with established careers in the industry. To find out more about the mentoring program, contact ADAS with the subject line “Mentorship request”.

[Visit the Mentorship Program page here](#)

[Visit the UTCSA website](#)

[Read this article online](#)

## Using ADAS Simulators for Verification of Competency



Offshore supervisor applicants who need to show proof of competency as part of the application process, can do so using the ADAS Diving Supervisor simulator.

Since the ADAS Diving Supervisor simulators were launched in 2011, they have been utilised numerous times to aid both trainee and substantive offshore supervisors to gain panel hours.

Something that supervisors may not be aware of, is that the simulators can also be used by offshore supervisors to complete Verification of Competency (VOC) assessments.

Offshore supervisors seeking an ADAS certification through the crossover process, and trainee offshore supervisors applying for a substantive offshore supervisor certification, can use the ADAS simulators to build up panel time to support their applications.

There are currently two simulators available for use, with both leased by OMNE Marine Training Centre (OMTC) and located in Huntly, New Zealand, and Singapore. All enquiries for use of the simulators should be made through OMTC.

Any applicants who believe they may need to complete a Verification of Competency (VOC) assessment are asked to [contact ADAS](#) for further guidance.

[Read more about the ADAS Simulators](#)

[Find out more about the Verification of Competency process](#)

[Read this article online](#)



## Safety

One diving-related safety incident has been shared in recent International Marine Contractors Association (IMCA) Safety Flashes.

- IMCA SF 22/24 – [Diver exposed to unplanned release of production gas](#)

[Read this article online](#)

## French Certifications No Longer Accepted for Crossover



ADAS is no longer accepting French certifications issued after the 14th of June 2024 for crossover applications.

During the IDRCF (International Diving Regulators and Certifiers Forum, of which ADAS is a founding member) meeting in Switzerland in October 2024, the decision was made to suspend French membership. As a result, ADAS will no longer accept French certifications for direct crossover applications. Licenses issued after the cut-off date of June 14, 2024 will not be accepted.

This applies to license holders from any of the French occupational diving schools. Certificates issued before the cut off date may still be eligible for crossover, provided the veracity of the certificate can be verified appropriately from a centralised and independent point of contact in France.

French divers with certifications issued after the 14th of June 2024 may still be eligible for entry into RPL courses (Recognition of Prior Learning) in order to gain ADAS certification. More information about RPL processes can be found on the [Recognition of Prior Learning](#) page on the ADAS website.

If you would like more information on this matter, please contact Amanda Sordes, Executive Director ([amanda@adas.org.au](mailto:amanda@adas.org.au)).

[Read this article online](#)

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