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Circular NI OSR 2017-01
June 2017

To all NI accredited oil spill response training providers offering courses to the UK National syllabus for BEIS or MCA

Dear Provider,

The purpose of this Circular is to inform you of the changes to the Schemes of Accreditation offered by the NI and how this will impact you as a UK OSR syllabus training provider.

The models of delivery by many providers is now very diverse and in many cases assumptions have been made that approval to run courses in the UK means that courses may also be delivered outside of the UK, by other providers, agents or to a different technical syllabuses.

The current UK scheme administered by the NI / MCA and BEIS was not designed for this diversity and to establish levels of quality control over all models of delivery it is necessary to make changes to the current scheme and to introduce a new International Scheme. The outline of this was described at the UK trainers meeting in March 2017

For UK Providers delivering in the UK

At the moment, all providers delivering the UK syllabus in the UK are required to meet the NI / MCA / BEIS Standard including the technical content. The delivery has oversight by The Nautical Institute and accredited providers are permitted to issue qualifications identifying themselves as approved providers. Certificates awarded may carry the appropriate logos of the respective organisations identified above.

For UK Providers delivering UK courses overseas

The MCA has made it clear that for the MCA logo to be used on non-UK course certificates the content must be full UK syllabus compliant. The Nautical Institute will wish to see evidence of the instructional syllabus used, the staff engaged for the delivery and the quality control arrangements put in place by the approved organisation.

For overseas delivery of IMO level courses a provider must deliver an MCA UK course and indicate the equivalent IMO level for its client or follow the guidance below for overseas delivery.

In the absence of these details any delivery made overseas will be regarded as non-compliant by MCA and the NI as accreditation body for these levels.



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UK Providers delivering IMO – compliant courses overseas

From January 2018 The Nautical Institute offers, via its International Scheme, direct accreditation of IMO courses without requiring MCA content equivalents and can also accredit related subject matter courses provided an internationally recognised practise is published.

The new “International Scheme” will attract a yearly membership fee as well as a per certificate issued fee (once only). This covers the costs of running the scheme, maintaining the documentation, providing newsletters, providing for annual meetings, provide for maintenance of certificate database and a help service. Membership of the scheme also affords a 10% discount on IMO books and publications ordered via the NI.

The NI are sure this new model will offer greater flexibility to those providers that venture beyond the UK and wish to deliver courses.

Future Plans

To discuss further it is planned to hold an open forum event before the end of July to explain the scheme in more detail and to answer questions that you may have. An invitation will be sent shortly.

Those manufacturing companies that utilise agents to deliver courses will be contacted separately with a revised set of quality control measures to be applied by the NI to ensure maintenance of the standards.

The key changes to note are given in the following table: -

Providers model of course delivery	Changes
A current UK provider not delivering overseas MCA or IMO courses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No changes, the UK Scheme will still apply. There will be no annual fee or per certificate issued fee applied. NI and MCA logos can be used
A current UK provider delivering full MCA courses overseas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No changes, the UK Scheme will still apply. There will be no annual fee or per certificate issued fee applied. MCA and NI logo are used The full MCA UK specification syllabus must be given. Certificates can bear the equivalent IMO level



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<p>A current UK provider delivering non-MCA overseas courses as well as UK MCA BEIS courses in UK</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From Jan 2018, the provider will be entered into the International scheme in addition to the UK Scheme membership. • The International scheme will attract per annum management fees and fees per certificate issued. Current UK scheme providers will be given 50% fee discount in first year against per annum fee and per certificate fees associated with the international scheme. NI logo can be applied • For the UK Scheme component, no fees will apply other than actual costs of accreditation or re-accreditation visits. MCA and NI logos can be applied • Where a provider is a member of both schemes accreditation and re-accreditation visits will be held simultaneously
<p>A current UK based provider only delivering IMO courses either in UK or overseas. No MCA or BEIS courses are delivered.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The provider will leave the UK Scheme at the end of 2017 • From Jan 2018, the provider will be entered into the International scheme. • The International scheme will attract per annum management fees and fees per certificate issued. Current UK scheme providers will be given 50% fee discount in first year against per annum fee and per certificate fees associated with the international scheme. NI logo can be applied.

For further information please contact Bernie Bennett, Scheme Manager at bernie.bennett@nautinst.org



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