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Volume 24, Issue No 3

This issue is a little late as we had little to pass on to you all in July. However, in this issue we cover the welcome of more Training Centres, the proposed new Application Forms, sending PDFs instead of images and the planned Compressor Maintenance Course.

Jim Mills has retired

I received the sad news in May that Jim Mills has decided to retire from IDEST Ltd training and also from inspecting and testing cylinders. He and his wife are on the move to a new location and it seemed an ideal time to call it a day.

Jim's centre, J M Scuba Services, has been a very active centre, running a large percentage of the training course each year.

He will be sorely missed but we wish him, and his wife, all the best for the future.

Welcome to FOUR NEW CENTRES

As you will see from the list below, we have recently welcomed four new Training Centres to our growing group. Training enquiries in the last few months have been staggering and finding suitable locations for the students is proving difficult. To have new centres join us is starting to make that choice so much easier.

So welcome to:

- **Dave Wright – Dive Right Ltd in Pattaya, Thailand**
- **Darren Ellis – Cylinder Testing Station Ltd, Redditch**
- **Becky Jones – Scuba Shack Ltd, Sedgley**
- **David Allan – Rec2Tec Diving, Milton Keynes**

This brings the number of Training Centres to twelve world-wide.

There are currently enquiries from several other international locations, namely Portugal, Malta, Cyprus, Egypt, United Arab Emirates and Greece. The interest in technician training is spreading quickly as dive centres wish to take on cylinder inspection themselves.

New Application Forms

For some time now I have been aware that some of the information that we have been collecting has never been used and is unlikely to be used. Student addresses, gender and date of birth have been entered into the database but never used at any time to query the facts and figures. So it has been decided to drop all this unnecessary data and simply collect the data that we use to issue qualification certificates, namely:

- Forename
- Surname
- Mobile
- Email address

Theses should be sufficient to trace any students when it comes to who did their training, what courses they did, their URNs and limited contact details.

These new Application Forms will start coming out very soon, so look out for them and ensure you follow the requirements listed.

Images vs PDFs

For some time, many centres have been sending through student application forms **as images** taken on a mobile phone. These images are often not clear when enlarged, details are difficult to extract, particularly when the image is embedded in the email message.

Embedded images of students come through in a different format of JPEG and cannot be opened by Photoshop for cropping and resizing.

Can you please ensure that Application Forms are sent as attached **PDFs** and that any images of students are also attached as **JPEGs** to the email.

This will make my admin so much easier, cut down on the time it takes to reconfigure images and PDFs as well as speeding up the time students receive their qualifications.

Compressor Maintenance Course (CMC)

Several centres have been asking for a Compressor Maintenance Course due to student demand.

I have three centres, who have run such courses in the past and have offered to send through their material for IDEST Ltd to use.

As with all course material production, it takes time. Typically, about 12 months to put the initial presentation together, turn the bullet points into Instructor Manual content, develop Student Course Materials from the IM and then create the theory question paper.

It is hoped that the CMC will be available by mid-August 2025, so watch this space.

IDEST Ltd Training Centres update

This is the current list of Training Centres:

- **Bristol Channel Diving Services, Cardiff. TC001**
- **M60 Scuba, Stockport. TC003**
- **Sunderland Scuba Centre, Sunderland. TC004**
- **C & R Testing, Sowerby Bridge. TC007**
- **D V Diving, Northern Ireland. TC009**
- **Moray Firth Dive Centre, Moray. TC011**
- **Discover Diving IOM. TC012**
- **Innovative Technology Asia Co Ltd, Phuket, Thailand. TC014**
- **Dive Right Co. Ltd, Pattaya, Thailand. TC016**
- **Cylinder Testing Station, Redditch. TC017**
- **Scuba Shack Ltd, Sedgley. TC018**
- **Rec2Tec Diving, Milton Keynes. TC019**

Training Centres leaving since the last issue of TRAINER

- **J M Scuba Services, Leicester. TC010 (retired)**
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