

THE INTERNATIONAL DIVING SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION (IDSA)



REPORT TO THE ANNUAL MEETING OF EDTC, GYDYNIA OCTOBER 2015

IDSA has continued to grow, and now has just under 80 members of all types. There are 5 types of Membership, each paying an appropriate annual subscription, they are:

FULL Only Full Members have the right to vote and there are two categories::

Full Member (Diver Training) Commercial Schools who are authorised to award DSA Diving Qualification cards, after a successful on-site audit – 11 Members

Full Member (Specialist Diving) Commercial Schools who teach diving specialist qualifications but do not train divers. – 3 Members

Note : to date over 4000 IDSA Diver Qualification Cards have been issued.

INDUSTRIAL Government departments, Diving Contractors Suppliers, Manufacturers and other Organisations who wish to show their support for the work of the Association in the form of Sponsorship.- 10 Members

ASSOCIATE Commercial Schools who are either considering Full Membership or who wish to be associated with the work of the Association. – 30 Members
(7 of the these Members have applied for Full Membership)

AFFILIATE Government departments, Diving Contractors Suppliers, Manufacturers and other Organisations concerned with or interested in the work of the Association.
– 15 Members

RECIPROCAL An exchange of Membership with Organisations whose aims are similar to those of IDSA, and from which both sides can benefit. – 6 Members

Regrettably, in the last few months the Board has found it necessary to terminate the Membership of the YAK Diving Academy in Bombay for serious breaches of the IDSA Standards.

As a result of its growth part of the Administration is now moving to the Netherlands Diving Centre (NDC) in Delft, where work has already begun on the preparations necessary to achieve ISO9001 status.

The annual meeting of the Association took place in September hosted by the Diving Section of the Irish Naval Service. In particular the Training Standards were discussed in some detail and updated in the light of the latest procedures, and modified as necessary based on the experience gained since their introduction 18 months ago. The possibility of creating a Commercial Diving Instructor certificate was discussed, and a draft proposal is to be drawn up. Briefings were also given on the use that is being made of the IDSA Standards in some countries for example : Denmark, France and Italy.

The meeting also included a number of presentations: the Manned submersible exploration of the Titanic (Rory Golden), Deep tunnelling operations (IHC Merwede), Digital thickness Measurement (Cygnus Instruments), the challenges and solutions for Diver Welder Training (Speciality Welds), and the latest low light helmet mounted television (Vic Systems). Delegates also toured the Irish Naval School , and the National Maritime College of Ireland (NMCI) which shares the site.

The 2016 Annual Meeting will take place in September, the venue has still to be determined.

Alan Bax, Administrator