

The AHSCP Certification Scheme - Achievements and The Future

Brett Brace and Jasbir Randhawa (Australia)

Key words: Hydrography; Standards; AHSCP; certification scheme; competency; IBSC

SUMMARY

The Australasian Hydrographic Surveyors Certification Panel (AHSCP) was established in 1994 to provide a regional certification scheme for hydrographic surveyors. To date the AHSCP has assessed more than 230 applications from around the world with a focus on Australia and New Zealand.

This paper outlines the developments of the AHSCP over the last twenty years in achieving its status as providing a pathway for certification of professional hydrographic surveyors to international standards. It provides an overview of items such as the Panel's operation, associated AHSCP documentation, continuing professional development, promotion among the wider community, etc. Details of the AHSCP certification scheme's recognition at national and international levels are also described.

Further it discusses possible future developments in which the AHSCP could have a significant role - e.g. certification of hydrographic surveyors based on 'specialisms'; contractual and legislative requirements for competency certification; collaboration with other interested national/international organizations to consider certification of hydrographic surveyors at the 'technician' level.