INTRODUCTION

Training in all aspects of Marine Aids to Navigation (AtoN) delivery from inception to installation and maintenance to life-cycle planning is critical to the consistent provision of an AtoN service. The successful delivery of AtoN services depends upon competent and experienced personnel to implement and maintain such services.

The IALA World Wide Academy offers an online distance learning programme to achieve qualification as an international IALA Level 1.1 Marine Aids to Navigation Manager.

The course consists of two modules of online learning, activities, case studies and examinations in addition to a residential course at an Accredited Training Organisation.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Modules 1 and 2 of the IALA Level 1.1 Marine Aids to Navigation Manager course are delivered through online distance learning and module 3 is delivered at various international locations by an Accredited Training Organisation.

Module 1 – consists of an introduction to the marine environment and AtoN and covers the foundation of maritime knowledge required by an AtoN Manager. The module is divided into several components:

- an introduction to IALA and International Organisations concerned with AtoN and related safety of navigation matters;
- basic nautical knowledge;
- an introduction to AtoN;
- an insight into the mariners’ view from the bridge of a ship.

Module 2 – covers the technical and operational knowledge of visual, radio and audible AtoN and Vessel Traffic Services required by an AtoN manager. The module is divided into five components:

- the technical aspects and functions of short-range visual and audible AtoN;
- the technical aspects and functions of satellite and terrestrial radio AtoN including Automatic Identification Systems (AIS); remote monitoring techniques and e-Navigation;
- an introduction to the principles of Vessel Traffic Services;
- AtoN structures and materials used in their construction and the conservation of historic lighthouses;
- an introduction to power supply systems.

Module 3 – is delivered as a residential course covering practical aspects of AtoN provision, design and management. The module also includes a major group planning task:

- the role of Competent Authorities and the obligations placed on them by international maritime conventions including the provision of AtoN services to full international standards;
- Planning and publication of a Level of Service statement; liaison with regional stakeholders and basic risk management procedures;
- contractual procedures, funding of an AtoN service and responsibilities related to the protection of the coastal and marine environment;
- a major group planning task requiring participants to act as the national Competent Authority of a small Coastal State charged with the delivery of an internationally compliant AtoN service.
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Potential candidates will be required to undertake a pre-course assessment to ascertain whether the minimum requirements for participation in online learning are met. The assessment is designed to review functional skills such as English and mathematics in addition to basic marine knowledge.

ASSESSMENT

To successfully achieve qualification as an IALA Level 1.1 Marine Aids to Navigation Manager, candidates will be required to successfully complete a range of assessment activities. These include a written examination for each module and practical tasks during the residential Module 3 course. Online activities will also be provided which will serve to consolidate learning. To be awarded the IALA Level 1.1 Marine Aid to Navigation Manager qualification, candidates are required to achieve a minimum score of 50% in all assessment activities.

The examinations for module 1 and 2 may be undertaken at any location under the supervision of an invigilator approved by IALA.

COURSE MATERIALS

Candidates should obtain the following materials before the course commences:

- The IALA Maritime Buoyage System and other Aids to Navigation booklet (2010 edition);
- Charts of your region at large (1: 10,000); medium (1: 25,000) and small (1: 100,000) scales;
- The international chart symbols booklet (BA 5011/INT 1);
- A set of basic drawing instruments and a scientific calculator.

Other resources will be made available via the online learning platform. Candidates will require a suitable computer and stable internet connection to participate in the course.

REGISTRATION AND FEES

An application and registration form is available from the IALA website. The fee for each module is €1500. If all 3 modules are studied consecutively candidates may normally complete the full qualification within a year.

SCHEDULE

A minimum study of around 42 hours is envisaged for module 1 and 55 hours for module 2. Module 3 is a 5-day residential course at an Accredited Training Organisation.

Course start dates are flexible and are available throughout the year. It is expected that candidates should complete the qualification within a year.

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions related to the course, please contact Kevin Gregory, Education and Development Manager – kevin.gregory@iala-aism.org