



MARINE CHEMIST QUALIFICATION BOARD

National Fire Protection Association

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To: All Marine Chemists

From: Lawrence B. Russell, Executive Secretary, Marine Chemist Qualification Board

Subject: Instructions for Marine Chemists Affected by the Postponing of 2020 MCA Sponsored Training Seminars to 2021 Calendar-Year.

Date: 10 August 2020

On 08 April 2020 the Marine Chemist Qualification Board (MCQB or Board) issued a memorandum to all Certificated Marine Chemists. The memo was issued following the postponement of the Marine Chemist Association (MCA) training seminar scheduled to occur on 28 March 2020 in Charlotte, NC. In that memorandum: *2020 MCA Mini Seminar and Annual Seminar Attendance During COVID-19 Response*, the MCQB provided instructions for a small number of Marine Chemists who were unable to meet the seminar attendance requirement in Section VII.C.g of the *Rules for the Certification and Recertification of Marine Chemists*, as amended and effective 01 January 2019 (the Rules). That memo stated that the Board would provide additional instructions as needed and necessary.

As you know, the effects of COVID-19 are widespread and have further impacted the MCA sponsored training seminars that were scheduled for the remainder of the 2020 calendar-year. Both the Annual Seminar and Meeting scheduled for 27-29 July 2020 in San Francisco, CA; and the Mini Seminar scheduled for Chicago, IL on 24 October 2020 have been postponed to the 2021 calendar-year.



The postponement of the MCA sponsored training seminars that were scheduled for 2020 means that there are some Marine Chemists who will not meet the seminar attendance requirement in Section VII.C.g of the Rules. According to records maintained by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the MCA there are seventeen (17) individuals who are potentially affected by the postponement of the 2020 training seminars:

- Four (4) individuals who have, or will seek recertification in 2020;
- Three (3) individuals who will seek recertification prior to 01 April 2021; and
- Ten (10) individuals who will seek recertification later in 2021.

Six of the individuals noted above need to attend an Annual Seminar; and either a Mini Seminar or another Annual Seminar to be eligible for recertification.

Due to the postponement of the MCA training program schedule for the 2020 calendar-year, the memorandum, *2020 MCA Mini Seminar and Annual Seminar Attendance During COVID-19 Response*, is rescinded and replaced with the following instructions:

1. Marine Chemists who have not met the requirements of Rules, Section VII.C.g and been recertificated in 2020; or will apply for recertification in 2020.

A Marine Chemist who needs to attend an Annual Seminar and Meeting and/or a Mini Seminar to meet the requirements in Section VII.C.2.g of the Rules, shall attend additional training seminar(s) during his or her next Certification period. **Affected individuals will have two (2) years to complete this requirement (01 January 2021 to 31 December 2022).**

A Marine Chemist who needs to make-up one (1) seminar shall be required to attend a total of four (4) seminars during the next five-year certification period. A Marine Chemist who needs to make-up two (2) seminars shall be required to attend five (5) seminars during the next five-year certification period. Only after satisfying the past-due seminar attendance requirement will any seminar attendance from 01 January 2021 to 31 December 2022 be counted toward meeting the requirement for recertification in calendar-year 2025.

Exception: Alternative continuing education as presented in Instruction 3 of this memorandum may be used as equivalent credit for MCA sponsored seminar attendance.

2. Marine Chemists who have not met the requirements of Rules, Section VII.C.g and will apply for recertification in 2021.

A Marine Chemist who needs to attend an Annual Seminar and Meeting and/or a Mini Seminar to meet the requirements in Section VII.C.2.g of the Rules, shall attend additional training seminar(s) during his or her next Certification period. **Affected individuals will have two (2) years to complete this requirement (01 January 2021 to 31 December 2023).**

A Marine Chemist who needs to make-up one (1) seminar shall be required to attend a total of four (4) seminars during the next five-year certification period. A Marine Chemist who needs to make-up two (2) seminars shall be required to attend five (5) seminars during the next five-year certification period. Only after satisfying the past-due seminar attendance requirement will any seminar attendance from 01 January 2021 to 31 December 2023 be counted toward meeting the requirement for recertification in calendar-year 2026.

Exception: Alternative continuing education as presented in Instruction 3 of this memorandum may be used as equivalent credit for MCA sponsored seminar attendance.

3. Alternative Continuing Education Credit Option to Make-up a Seminar Missed during this Current Certification Period.

The MCQB recognizes that it may be difficult for a Marine Chemist to attend additional seminars during the next five-year certification period especially if two make-up seminars are needed. The Board has approved an alternative continuing education option for the 17 Marine Chemist affected by the cancellation of training seminars in the 2020 calendar-year.

The American Industrial Hygienist Association (AIHA) provides self-paced online courses for professionals who want to immerse themselves in a topic area of study to meet their professional development goals. The MCQB has approved the following two (2) online courses.

- Basic Principles of Occupational Hygiene (Online course, 8 Contact hours, \$250 Member/\$350 Non-Member)
- Welding: An Exercise in Applied Industrial Hygiene (Online course, 8 Contact Hours, \$250 Member \$350 Non-Member)

Additional details of these two courses are provided as an attachment to this memorandum.

Upon registration, the student has six (6) months to complete each course. **To get credit for using one or both alternative continuing education courses a Marine Chemist will have to complete the course(s) and present documentation that the course was satisfactorily completed BEFORE 31 December 2021.**

Credit for satisfactory completion of the AIHA online course(s) shall be awarded as follows:

A Marine Chemist who needs to attend an additional Mini Seminar can take **one** of the AIHA (8-hour) online courses to get credit for a Mini Seminar. That individual will then need to attend the three total seminars as required by the Rules, Section VII.C.2.g during the next 5-year certification period.

A Marine Chemist who needs an additional Annual Seminar and Meeting can take **two** of the AIHA (8-hour) online courses (16 hours total) to get credit for the Annual Seminar and Meeting. That individual will then need to attend the three total seminars as required by the Rules, Section VII.C.2.g during the next 5-year certification period.

A Marine Chemist who needs to complete **both** an Annual Seminar **and** a Mini Seminar (only applies to six individuals) can only make-up one missed seminar (Annual or Mini) with the completion of the AIHA online course(s). That individual will have to attend an additional MCA seminar (Annual or Mini) as required by Instruction 1 or Instruction 2 in this memorandum, as applicable.

A Marine Chemist who registers but fails to satisfactorily complete the online course or fails to provide documentation that the online course(s) were satisfactorily completed by 31 December 2021 shall be required to attend the additional Annual Seminar and/or Mini Seminar in accordance with Instruction 1 or Instruction 2 of this memorandum, as applicable.

The instructions outlined in this memorandum are not applicable to those Marine Chemists who are eligible for recertification in 2020 and 2021 calendar-years and have met the requirements of the Rules, Section VII.C.2.g. These individuals are not affected by the postponement of the 2020 MCA sponsored training seminars. **Similarly, the instructions in this memorandum are not applicable for those Marine Chemists who will seek recertification after 31 December 2021.**

The MCQB anticipates that MCA sponsored training seminars will resume as scheduled in the 2021 calendar-year. The MCA sponsored training seminars are the approved and preferred method for professional development of Marine Chemists. The alternative training option

presented in this memorandum addresses an immediate training need that affects a small number of Marine Chemists. The MCQB will continue to monitor the impacts of the COVID-19 on Marine Chemists' professional development training required by the Rules and will revise these instructions as needed and as necessary.

Please note attendance at MCA sponsored training seminars is a mandatory requirement for recertification. The instructions presented in this memorandum are directed at the 17 individuals who have either been recertificated in 2020 calendar-year, or will submit applications to be recertificated later in 2020 and in 2021 calendar years; and have not met the requirement for seminar attendance in the Rules, Section VII.C.2.g. Failure to comply with the requirements for recertification in the Rules, Section VII.C.2.g, including the instructions outlined in this memorandum for those affected individuals may result in disciplinary action by the Board in accordance with Section IX.B of the Rules.

See Attachment: Alternative Learning for Marine Chemists Affected by the Postponing of 2020 MCA Sponsored Training Seminars – AIHA Online Course Descriptions

ATTACHMENT: Alternative Learning for Marine Chemists Affected by the Postponing of 2020 MCA Sponsored Training Seminars – AIHA Online Course Descriptions

As noted in the memorandum to all Marine Chemists, 10 August 2020, the following courses from the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) have been approved by the Marine Chemist Qualification Board. A brief description of each course is presented in this attachment to the 10 August 2020 memorandum. For additional details go to the AIHA website.

American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA)

3141 Fairview Park Drive

Suite 777

Falls Church, VA 22042

Tel: [+1 703-849-8888](tel:+17038498888)

Website: <https://www.aiha.org/education/elearning/online-courses>

Online Courses - These self-paced online courses let you learn at your convenience. They're perfect for professionals who want to immerse themselves in a topic area of study so you can commit to meeting your professional development goals with ease.

Basic Principles of Occupational Hygiene

Online course

Novice

8 Contact hours

\$250 Member/\$350 Non-Member

Based on OHTA course materials, this new online course provides an introduction to the broad principles in occupational hygiene as the basis for anticipation, recognition, evaluation and control of hazards that can be encountered in the workplace.

This course is perfect for health and safety professionals, occupational health specialists, and other industry specialists who want a broader understanding of how their role interfaces with health issues in the workplace.

Course outline

Module 1A Introduction to Occupational Hygiene

Module 1B Behavior & Culture

Module 1C Careers in Occupational Hygiene

Module 2 Human Physiology

Module 3 Toxicology Fundamentals
Module 4 Examples of Hazardous Substances/Processes
Module 5 Assessment of Health Risks
Module 6 Measurements of Airborne Contaminants
Module 7 Hygiene Standards and Occupational Exposure Limits
Module 8 Biological Monitoring and Health Surveillance
Module 9 General Approaches to the Control of Health Risks
Module 10 Ventilation
Module 11 Asbestos
Module 12 Biological Hazards
Module 13 Noise
Module 14 Vibration
Module 15 Thermal Environment
Module 16 Non-Ionising Radiation
Module 17 Ionising Radiation
Module 18 Introduction to Ergonomics
Module 19 Work Related Stress Management

Course outcomes

Upon completion, students will have a basic understanding of:
the value of occupational hygiene and the role of the occupational hygienist;
the range of hazards [physical and chemical] in the workplace;
hazard recognition techniques;
sources and potential routes of exposure;
hazard evaluation, exposure assessment and the measurement processes;
methods of controlling exposure;
the management of occupational hygiene programs.

Who will benefit?

This online self-study course will benefit those new to industrial hygiene; health and safety professionals; and occupational health specialists (including physicians and nurses). Specialists in subjects such as acoustics, ergonomics, human factors, occupational psychology, work organization, biosafety, acoustics, engineering, or analytical chemistry who want a broader appreciation of how their role interfaces with other professions regarding health issues in the workplace.

Time to complete

Participants will have 6 months from the date of purchase to complete the coursework and the online course evaluation for credit.

Web course materials

All course materials are provided as PowerPoint or PDF downloads via the online classroom (registrant-access only). No hardcopy materials are mailed for this course. Registrants connect and get unlimited 24/7 web access for 6 months.

This course includes a full e-learning suite of 19 modules incorporating presentation video. To successfully submit credit for this course in the online classroom, participants must view the presentation in its entirety, complete all module activities, and pass an assessment. An online evaluation of the course is included as part of the credit submission process.

Welding: An Exercise in Applied Industrial Hygiene

Online course

Introductory

8 Contact Hours

Instructor: Mike Harris

Member \$250 | Non-Member \$350

Adapted from a popular PDC, this course describes common welding and thermal cutting processes and the health/safety hazards associated with these processes. Terminology used in the welding industry is incorporated throughout the course as a means of familiarizing participants with the vocabulary used in the workplace. Materials, thermal processes and scenarios associated with potential for overexposures are described. Emphasis is placed on Manganese and Hexavalent Chromium exposures as well as many other H&S hazards. Suggestions for improving the quality of monitoring data are provided as are suggestions for prioritizing exposure assessments. Ventilation techniques and respiratory protection options are also described.

Course outline

Module 1: Getting Started

Module 2: Welding Overview

Module 3: Anticipation & Recognition of Welding Health Hazards

Module 4: Evaluation of Welding Health Hazards

Module 5: Controlling Exposures

Module 6: Applied Ventilation for Hotwork in Confined Spaces

Course Wrap-Up and Online Final Exam

Who will benefit

This online self-study course will benefit IH's who are responsible for the health and safety of workers who are exposed to hotwork (welding) processes.

Time to complete

This course will take approximately 8 hours to complete. You will have up to 6 months from your enrollment date to complete your coursework, successfully pass the online final exam and complete the online course evaluation.

Course materials

All course materials are provided as PDF downloads via the course online community (registrant-access only). No hardcopy materials are mailed for this course.

Registrants connect and get unlimited 24/7 web access for 6 months. Materials in this course include:

A full e-learning suite of 6 modules incorporating presentation video and interactive activities

Course e-textbook (*Welding: An Exercise in Applied Industrial Hygiene Student Guide*)

Supplemental e-texts (*Welding Health & Safety: A Field Guide for OEHS Professionals*, and *Field Guidelines for Temporary Ventilation of Confined Spaces with an Emphasis on Hotwork*)

An online final exam and evaluation are required for successful completion of this course.

Instructor



Mike Harris, PhD received his PhD from Louisiana State University and is President of Hamlin & Harris, Inc. in Baton Rouge, LA. His welding experience includes teaching aircraft welding at the U.S. ARMY Transportation School, welding environmental test equipment for Ling Electronics, welding aircraft drop tanks at Royal Industries, and welding pressure vessels for nuclear submarines at Aerojet General. Harris was also the 2014 recipient of the Donald E Cummings award.