

IN WATER CA-EBS ADDITIONAL MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS

Amended guidance following OPITO update – 12.3.18



On the 26th March 2018 in water Compressed Air Emergency Breathing Systems (CA-EBS) will be approved by OPITO for use in the pool.

The following additional medical requirements will be required for delegates to undertake the in water training:

PRIOR TO ATTENDANCE

Delegates are required to obtain or possess a current:

1. Unexpired Oil and Gas UK (OGUK) offshore medical certificate confirming the delegate's fitness for offshore work* OR possesses a valid, unexpired offshore medical certificate issued by a body outside of the UK which is recognised as equivalent to the OGUK medical certificate of fitness for offshore work*, **AND**
2. **a. Fit to train** certificate issued by a registered OGUK examining doctor which will enable you to carry out CA-EBS training in shallow water **or**
b. Unfit to train certificate issued by a registered OGUK examining doctor. Delegates attending with an unfit to train certificate will be exempt from the CA-EBS in water element and will participate in the dry CA-EBS training only.

COMPULSORY - AT INDUCTION / FIRST DAY OF COURSE

Delegates are required to bring to the training centre all of the above documentation.

3. In addition, on the date on which the delegate is to undertake shallow water CA-EBS training, and prior to entering the water in which the training takes place, the delegate completes for the OPITO approved training centre a statement, that to the best of the delegate's knowledge and belief, the delegate has no (current or past) medical condition which makes the delegate unfit to participate in the training.

OPITO training courses affected:

- Basic Offshore Safety Induction & Emergency Training (**BOSIET**) 3 Day Course
- Further Offshore Emergency Training (**FOET**) 1 Day Course
- Helicopter Underwater Escape Training (**HUET**) 1 Day Course

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Certification

All delegates must provide

- evidence of current OGUK Medical (or equivalent)
- a certificate of “fitness to train” for in water CA-EBS **or**
- certificate of “unfit to train” **and**
- be able to self-certify their fitness to train on the day of in-water HUET activities before certificates can be issued.

Delegates holding

- Unexpired Oil and Gas UK (OGUK) Offshore Medical Certificate
- Fit to Train Certificate issued by a registered OGUK Examining Doctor
- And sign at HOTA item number 3 above

Will receive a full OPITO BOSIET, FOET or HUET with CA-EBS certificate

Delegates holding

- Unexpired Oil and Gas UK (OGUK) Offshore Medical Certificate
- Unfit to Train Certificate issued by a registered OGUK Examining Doctor

Will be exempt from in-water training and will be issued with an OPITO BOSIET / FOET / HUET with CAEBS certificate after completing dry training only

Delegates:

- Not in possession of an Oil and Gas UK (OGUK) Offshore Medical Certificate (point 1 above) and
- Not in possession of a Fit to Train Certificate (2a above)
- Not in possession of a Unfit to Train certificate (2b above)
- Not able to self-declare Fit to Train on the day

Cannot undertake in-water CA-EBS training and therefore cannot be issued with an OPITO BOSIET / FOET / HUET with CA-EBS certificate

In this circumstance, delegates will be deemed not yet competent (NYC) and will be required to gain 1, 2 and sign 3 and complete the in-water training at the HOTA within 90 days of the initial course end date

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O&GUK Doctors on request now issue a Fit to Train or Unfit to Train Certificate at the time of medical, dependent on medical history. A history of Asthma or Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) or Emphysema will require a positive lung function test.

Click link for O&GUK registered doctor database

Local OGUK Doctors



Name	Practice	Full Address	Practice Telephone	Contact Email Address
Ian Sibley-Calder	DR Sibley-Calder Medicals	5 Station Road Cranswick YO25 9QZ UK - England	07770 632893	sibcald@aol.com
Robert Greig Mitchell	Dr R Mitchell	The Surgery 15 School Lane North Ferriby HU14 3DB UK - England	07885 634370	robert.mitchell6@nhs.net
Anan Raghunath	Occupational Health Services Ltd	King George Dock Hull East Yorkshire Hull HU9 5PR UK - England	01482 712113	raghu.raghunath@nhs.net
Nitin Rao	Walkergate Surgery	117/119 Walkergate Beverley HU17 0DR UK - England		n.rao@nhs.net
Anthony G Moran	Humbermed Limited	C/o Molescroft Surgery 30 Lockwood Road Beverley HU17 9GQ UK - England	07398785673	moran@occhealth.karoo.co.uk
Margaret Lovett	Peeler House Surgery	1 Ferriby Road Hessle HU13 0RG UK - England	01482 646581	margaretlovett@nhs.net
Matt Tucker	Roxton Occupational Health Ltd	Pilgrim Primary Health Centre Pelham Road Immingham DN40 1JW UK - England	01469 577918	info@roxtonoccupationalhealth.co.uk
Sean Thrippleton	Roxton Occupational Health Ltd	Pilgrim Primary Health Centre Pelham Road Immingham DN40 1JW UK - England	01469 577918	info@roxtonoccupationalhealth.co.uk
Dafydd Williams	Humbermed Limited	C/o Molescroft Surgery 30 Lockwood Road Beverley HU17 9GQ UK - England	07522 375383	info@humbermed.co.uk
Guy Clayton	Humbermed Limited	C/o Molescroft Surgery 30 Lockwood Road Beverley HU17 9GQ UK - England	07522 375383	info@humbermed.co.uk

All delegates must provide to HOTA during the induction at the start of the BOSIET / FOET / HUET with CAEBS course:

- Valid OGUK Medical/ or valid Offshore medical issued by a body outside of the UK (recognised as equivalent to the OGUK) and:
- Possess either a 'Fit' or 'Unfit' to undertake shallow water CAEBS training certificate issued by a registered OGUK examiner

Have neither or just one of the medical evidence above

1. Do not attend course until they have the required medical evidence or:
2. Attend the course but do not conduct in-water CAEBS elements (deemed NYC on these elements) and conducts dry CAEBS training elements.

Come back at later date, have been deemed unfit to undertake shallow in water CAEBS training by OGUK Examiner

The candidate is 'unfit' to complete the in-water CAEBS elements of the BOSIET/HUET/FOET standards.
They will be awarded an OPITO approved certificate as already completed all other elements, including dry CAEBS element.

Come back at later date, having both a valid Offshore Medical & deemed fit to undertake shallow water CAEBS training by OGUK examiner

Have both a valid Offshore Medical & have been deemed fit to undertake shallow water CAEBS training by OGUK examiner

Have been deemed unfit to undertake shallow in-water CAEBS Training by OGUK examiner

The candidate is 'unfit' to complete the in-water CAEBS elements of the BOSIET/HUET/FOET standards.

They will complete the rest of the course (including dry CAEBS training element) and if successful be awarded an OPITO approved certificate.

On the day on which the delegate is to undertake shallow water CA-EBS training, and prior to entering the water in which the training takes place, the delegate must provide to HOTA a statement, that to the best of the delegate's knowledge and belief, the delegate has no current or past medical condition which makes the delegate unfit to participate in the training.

Deemed unfit on the day of practical in water CAEBS

Attend the course but do not conduct in-water CAEBS elements (deemed NYC on these elements).

Come back within 90 days when certified fit to undertake in water CAEBS

Complete course elements deemed NYC and if successful be awarded an OPITO approved certificate.

Deemed fit on the day of practical in water CAEBS

Complete course in its entirety, including shallow in water training element, and if successful be awarded an OPITO approved certificate.



Category A-EBS in BOSIET/FOET Training Programmes

Frequently Asked Questions for UK employers and delegates

The Civil Aviation Authority 'CAP 1145' review of helicopter safety following the 2013 Sumburgh helicopter crash made a series of recommendations, some relating to post-crash survivability. Among them was a requirement for use of Category 'A' Emergency Breathing Systems (CA-EBS) by passengers and aircrew.

The CA-EBS system was approved for offshore passenger travel in July 2014 and all passengers travelling offshore have undergone dry training using this system. An industry work group has reviewed and amended the OPITO training standards for BOSIET/HUET/FOET (with CA-EBS) to include in-water CA EBS training exercises.

The CA-EBS will be included in the BOSIET /HUET/ FOET (with CA-EBS) training programmes from March 26th 2018 onwards alongside an additional 'fit to train' certificate.

The below FAQ will hopefully address any questions you may have. If you would like a question added to this document, please email communications@opito.com.

When can we train with this in the water?

You will be able to train with this in the BOSIET / HUET / FOET (with CA-EBS) training programmes from the 26th March 2018 onwards.

Why has this taken so long?

There have been delays in this process arising from concerns related to barotrauma risk. A barotrauma may occur when a body is exposed to pressure changes, such as during diving. Lung pressure damage may occur when breath holding using compressed air EBS equipment during ascent.

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) stated position is that in-water training using compressed air EBS equipment falls within the provisions of The Diving at Work Regulations 1997, which requires those undertaking this type of training to undertake a full diving medical.

After extensive work undertaken by the OPITO BOSIET/HUET/FOET Industry Work Group - comprising of industry stakeholders, including diving medical and industry experts - conclusion was reached that the medical health risks could be controlled to as low as is reasonably practicable (ALARP) provided appropriate risk controls were put in place. As a result, the HSE issued an Exemption against certain requirements of a diving medical, together with other requirements.



Category A-EBS in BOSIET/FOET Training Programmes

Frequently Asked Questions for UK employers and delegates

What will we be doing?

To use the CA-EBS in the water as part of your training, the training provider needs to ensure candidates do not go deeper than 0.7m underwater to reduce the risk of barotrauma to an ALARP level. This means shallow-water exercises will allow delegates to experience breathing from the CA-EBS underwater, including deploying and breathing from the unit. It will not be used as part of the HUET inversion training (as this could exceed the 0.7m limit), which will continue to be on breath-hold.

Will the medical be changed?

No - the OGUK offshore medical examination will not change. However, candidates will need to get a 'fitness to train' certificate signed by a registered OGUK medical examiner which will need to be presented to the training provider on the day of your training. It is expected that the cost of a stand-alone certificate will not be high, and that it would cost significantly less if completed at the same time as the OGUK medical. On the day of your training, you will be asked to complete a self-declaration which states you are fit and able to undertake the training, i.e. no heavy cold, chesty coughs, etc.

How will I get this fitness to train certificate;

As an offshore worker?

All OGUK approved medical examiners for the medical have been briefed about this change. Therefore, candidates need to ask for a 'fitness to train' certificate to be added into your medical which should be undertaken every 2 years. It is expected that there will be little or no increase in cost if delivered in this manner. If your refresher is due before your current medical expires, you can request a stand-alone fitness to train assessment. Alternatively, you could ask your training provider whether they can provide this prior to your training. Make sure you have contacted your employer about this fitness to train certificate to understand how they want you to get it.

As an employing company?

There are a number of ways an employing company can get this certificate for staff. For example, you could arrange for an OGUK approved doctor to go offshore and issue these certificates at site, or in-house at your offices. If you don't have an in-house medical team, you should ensure that your medical provider is aware that you want this certificate on top of the basic offshore medical.



Category A-EBS in BOSIET/FOET Training Programmes

Frequently Asked Questions for UK employers and delegates

What do I need to do now?

You should check when your BOSIET/FOET (with CA-EBS) certificate is due to expire, as well as the date of your offshore medical expiry.

If your medical expires before your BOSIET/FOET (with CA-EBS) certificate, then no action needs to be taken.

Your medical will be taken prior to your refresher training which will include the fitness to train certificate.

If your medical expires after your BOSIET/FOET (with CA-EBS) certificate then you need to make an appointment with your OGUK doctor before you do any refresher training, as the fitness to train certificate will be required. It is advised that if a fitness to train certificate is required it should be obtained well in advance of a BOSIET/FOET (with CA-EBS) course.

What if I am declared unfit to train?

If you are medically unfit to train, you can still participate in your BOSIET/FOET (with CA-EBS) training but not the in-water CA-EBS exercises. You will still get your certificate as normal. You will be required to undertake dry CA-EBS training.

What's next?

From the 26th March 2018 the CA-EBS will be used in the water for BOSIET/FOET (with CA-EBS) training courses.

Once the CA-EBS has been used in-water for a period of time, the training will be reviewed to identify what can be done to improve the fidelity of the training, as per normal OPITO standards review processes.

Where can I get more information?

Your employing company should be the first point of call for information relating to the training requirements for your employment.

If you have any further questions you can email communications@opito.com.