

City & Guilds 8269-03 Level 3 Award for Maritime Security Operatives

This qualification has been developed for Maritime Security Operatives (MSOs) operating as PCASP

It is the only such qualification in Ofqual's Qualification and Credit Framework (QCF) based directly on the knowledge and competencies in ISO 28007

Its main purpose is to assist PMSCs demonstrate the competence of their operatives both to their clients and when being audited as part of the ISO 28007 certification process

The qualification is a Level 3 Award for Maritime Security Operatives (Scheme Number 8269)

Further detail is at: <http://www.cityandguilds.com/Courses-and-Qualifications/security-industry/security/8269-maritime-security-operatives-qcf>.

Background points:

- In January this year, the Security in Complex Environments Group (SCEG) asked City & Guilds (C&Gs) to develop a MSO qualification based on the competencies in the new international standard for Private Maritime Security Companies (PMSCs): ISO28007 [Guidelines for PMSCs providing privately contracted armed security personnel (PCASP) on board ships].
- The qualification has been created to demonstrate an operative's knowledge in all elements of armed anti-piracy duties except the safe handling of firearms and medical training.
- The MSO 8269 qualification comprises four units with some 38 Guided Learning Hours. It was accredited by Ofqual at Level 3 in the Qualification & Credit Framework (QCF) in May 2013. C&Gs will be allowing registration of candidates from Tuesday 4 June.
- Training will be delivered at approved C&Gs centres which have also been assessed by C&Gs as being suitably experienced and qualified in the field of maritime security. Course content must then satisfy the intended learning outcomes against the assessment criteria within the four units.
- Approved training providers will also wish to examine the extent to which top-up training will be needed to equip individuals already in the industry to obtain this qualification.
- As a Level 3 Ofqual qualification, ex-servicemen are able to use their MOD ELCAS funding.
- The MCA has been kept advised of progress throughout the qualification's development to ensure it satisfies the more restricted syllabus for personnel in designated security duties (PDSD) as required by the STCW Convention (as amended in Manila 2010) Regulation VI/6. Formal advice is expected to be received soon from the MCA on this matter.

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