

Must see videos:[How to use VHF Marine Radio](#)[Sending a distress signal](#)[Digital Selective Calling](#)[Uses of VHF Marine Radio](#)**Web links of Interest:****ACMA**[Radiocommunications \(Maritime Ship Station – 27MHz and VHF\) Class License 2015](#)[VHF Marine Radio](#)**BOM**[Marine and Ocean weather](#)[Communication services](#)**AMSA**[Maritime Mobile Service Identity \(MMSI\)](#)

Please contact the office if you know of other web links that may be of interest.

Promotional Material

OMC Pamphlets – having an event, request some OMC pamphlets. The pamphlet PDF file is also available on our website for printing at: http://www.amc.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/895002/OMC-flyer-Mar-2017.pdf

Dear All,

As the new manager for OMC I would like to introduce myself and outline our priorities for 2018.

I have been engaged in senior maritime training management for six years and I have inherited an organisation in excellent shape. This is very much due to the great work done by Suzanne Whitmore, who will be greatly missed, and by the extremely capable team of Liz and Sheree.

My initial focus for 2018 will be one of engaging with stakeholders with a view to increasing our impact on the future of training and improving participation rates. Already the engagement with ACMA has been very encouraging and I look forward to building on this.

I would like to wish you all the best for 2018 and I look forward to meeting you and hearing your thoughts and ideas.

Martin Crees-Morris

Digital Photographs

Yes – we accept these!

If a candidate presents at the exam without a photo, after verifying their identification, use your mobile phone to take a photo of them. Forward via email through to the office amcom@amc.edu.au.

This saves the office having to follow up or you having to hold onto the exam paper until they provide you with a photo (which they often forget to). The photo must be sent in by the invigilator.

Practical Assessments

Please ensure that the correct Practical Assessment is used for the exam being undertaken. There have been instances where a LROCP exam has been sat with a SROCP practical assessment.

VHF Handbook

A 2018 edition of the VHF Handbook is currently at the printers. The syllabus has been added, typos fixed but the biggest change to this new version is the Table for Transmitting Channels in the VHF Maritime Mobile Band (page 35). These updates do not affect any examination or revision questions.

This Table is available to view/print on the website

<http://www.amc.edu.au/industry/omc/handbooks-and-revision-questions>

Payments

Please specify on your Exam Lodgement Form who/how payment is being made. If you require a Proforma Invoice for a direct deposit state this on the back of the form, remembering to advise us when payment is made.

Our online payment facility is available 24/7 for invigilators/candidates to make payments with a credit card. This gives a receipt number instantly and the office is notified immediately. This option is much more secure than sending your credit card details via mail.

<http://www.amc.edu.au/industry/omc/omc-fees-and-payment>

2018 Fee Schedule

The following are the **set** fees (including GST) for 2018. **The fees have been approved by ACMA.**

New Applications	\$89.00
Unit of Competency Applications	\$49.00
Reissue Applications	\$35.00
MRO Handbook	\$45.00
MV Handbook	\$16.50
Handbook postage as quoted (estimated actual).	

The new fee schedule has been introduced on 1 January 2018.

Regards, Martin, Liz and Sheree.

Office of Maritime
Communications

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We're on the Web!

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[Office of Maritime
Communications](#)

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[AMC](#)

Office Staff

Manager – Martin Crees-Morris

Administration Assistants
Elizabeth Reeve
03 6324 9686
Sheree Campton
03 6324 9813

Opening Hours
Monday to Friday - 8:30am to
4:30pm except for public
holidays and university granted
days.

Invigilator Contact Details

*If changing your contact
details, sponsor
organisation, going overseas
for a while or resigning as an
invigilator, please let the
office know so that our
database can be updated.*

Feedback

*The OMC welcomes any
feedback or comments
regarding the content of this
newsletter, our exams, the
Marine Radio Operators
Handbooks, and any other
aspect of our service*

A little bit of housekeeping.

Since the implementation of the practical assessment, there has been quite a bit of confusion over what to return to OMC. A lot of missing required paperwork has been occurring requiring office staff to chase things via phone, email and sometimes mail. **Please return the following:**

- ✓ Exam Question booklet
- ✓ Application/answer sheet
With date of birth, contact details, photograph and signature;
- ✓ Practical assessment/ observation checklist
Signed by both candidate and invigilator/trainer.
- ✓ Examination Lodgement Form
With payment advice, comments and signed by invigilator.

In the OMC's agreement with ACMA we are allowed **15 working days** to finalise a completed examination application. An application is not complete until we have all of the above requirements. The OMC staff do not appreciate abusive phone calls and emails when results are delayed due to no fault of their own.

We ask for a **remittance advice** to be sent directly to us when making direct deposits into the UTAS bank account, which we forward on with your details, otherwise the monies may sit there for weeks until the finance department decides to chase it up.

Please check **identification** carefully. We have had a number of under sixteen candidates recently who we unfortunately have to inform that their application has been rejected and that their money is forfeited.

It is that time again when you need to **return any expired 2017 examinations** and order the 2018 versions. We have noticed postage times are a little slower lately so allow plenty of time for your order. Queries? We are only a call away!

BOM – news

To help boaters understand and plan for current and approaching weather, wave and tidal conditions, the Bureau has developed the Five Vital Weather Safety Checks. These are the questions you need to ask before you head out about the weather and how your boat will perform and react in those conditions. The Bureau has produced two new videos to explain how to use the right weather products for your checks. Watch the [Five Vital Weather Safety Checks](#) videos on the BOM website.

Ever wondered why the Bureau of Meteorology includes the statement "Maximum waves may be twice the height of the average wave heights"? An infographic now illustrates the relationship between the maximum wave height and the wave heights that are provided in the Bureau's marine forecasts. Mariners should expect to encounter these larger waves at least three times each day. Wave height forecasts are available on VHF radio marine forecasts and also MetEye.
<http://media.bom.gov.au/social/blog/870/ruling-the-waves-how-a-simple-wave-height-concept-can-help-you-judge-the-size-of-the-sea/>

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Are silence periods still required?

A. International regulations no longer require silence periods to be observed. However it is still recommended that vessels operating on the MF/HF frequencies observe silence periods.
Refer section 20 in the MRO Handbook available at:

www.amc.edu.au/industry/omc/handbooks-and-revision-questions