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**Da:** <Cathy.Uprichard@hse.gsi.gov.uk>  
**A:** <cedifop@alice.it>  
**Data invio:** venerdì 11 marzo 2011 14.22  
**Oggetto:** RE: Object: Practice of commercial diving as OTS/TOP UP in U.K.

Thank you for the information below.

Please let your students know that a diver with an Operatore Tecnico Subacqueo Top Up qualification will have to write to HSE if they want to apply to work as an offshore diver in the UK. The application will be considered under the EU Directive 2005/36.

Regards

**Cathy Uprichard - HSE HID Offshore Division 4.4**

Wren House, Hedgerows Business Park, Colchester Road, Springfield, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 5PF  
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**From:** cedifop@alice.it [mailto:cedifop@alice.it]  
**Sent:** 06 March 2011 15:21  
**To:** Cathy Uprichard; info@idsaworldwide.org  
**Subject:** Object: Practice of commercial diving as OTS/TOP UP in U.K.

**Dear Member of Sicilian Department for Education and Professional Training**  
**Hon. M. CENTORRINO**  
**Via Ausonia, 122**  
**90146 PALERMO**

**And copy to:**

**Miss Cathy Uprichard - HSE HID Offshore Division 4.4**  
 Wren House, Hedgerows Business Park, Colchester Road, Springfield, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 5PF  
 01245 706256 (VPN 507 6256) - 01245 706260 (fax) - cathy.uprichard@hse.gsi.gov.uk

**Mr. Alan Bax, IDSA Administrator**  
 47 Faubourg de la Madeleine, - 56140 Malestroit, - Bretagne, Francia  
 +33 (0) 2 97 73 72 61 - info@idsaworldwide.org - www.idsaworldwide.org

**Object: Practice of commercial diving as OTS/TOP UP in U.K.**

Granted that

- many Students from our School have requested to achieve the OTS/TOP UP certificate recognised in U.K. to work offshore,
- the publication of Educational Programme 'PROF 2011', on official journal (GURS) n. 1 of 07/01/2011, in according to Sicilian Department for Education and Professional Training, schedules that professional education and training for O.T.S. (Operatori Tecnici Subacquei),

both basic level and graduate courses, must follow the Directive 2005/36/CE, and must enforce standard and programmes adopted by I.D.S.A. (International Diving Schools Association) and H.S.E. (Health and Safety Executive).

The present writer asks

to the Esteemed Sicilian Department for Education and Professional Training, to activate, through "contact points", mentioned in the Directive 2005/36/CE, the official communication to HSE (Health and Safety Executive) and to IDSA (International Diving Schools Association), of procedures adopted by Sicilian Government, - "competent authority" in matter of Professional Education in Sicilian territory as prescribed by National legislation – to carry out control on professional courses authorized in his competence territory, and procedures to verify the accomplishment of training contents validated by IDSA.

The communication would certify, on the base of Directive 2005/36/CE, the comparability of following training courses:

1. **"Operatore tecnico subacqueo specializzato" to be recognised for "SCUBA & Surface Supplied Diving"**
2. **"Operatore tecnico subacqueo – Top Up – IDSA Level 3" to be recognised for "Surface Supplied (Top-Up)"**

carried out in Sicilia/Italia, to training courses that actually HSE recognise to other European and no-European Countries.

We clarify that the present writer is one of the 17 schools recognised as Full Member IDSA.

Moreover, in 2009, the course for "Operatore Tecnico Subacqueo Specializzato" has been recognised for "SCUBA & Surface Supplied Diving" to work as commercial diver in UK, until -30 metres.

The communication will allow to enlarge the above mentioned recognition, for the first time in Italy, and within the limits of training courses authorized by Sicilian Government, to work until depth of - 50 metres (OTS/TOP UP).

KIND REGARDS  
**Kouvakis Emmanouil**  
**CEDIFOP Director**



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