



Water Safety & Rescue Training



Maritime and
Coastguard Agency



Water safety / rescue training with Birmingham & Midland Marine Services Ltd.

All DEFRA compliant water safety & rescue training delivered by BMMS Ltd is run to the exacting and high standards set out in the Government paper, the 'Flood Rescue Concept of Operations'

In layman's terms: This sector can be a 'minefield' – Let's try and make it easier! There are three 'general' options, before it gets technical, and most times we find that clients need the 1st option; DEFRA Module 1) run to the Annex 'H' syllabus, a 1-day course.

If you need higher level, it's the second option, the third one is a very basic course with no planned entry to the water.

Commercial Vessel Water Safety Training is detailed below and is both Accredited & Audited by the [Maritime and Coastguard Agency - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

For companies and organisations working 'outside' the remit of the DEFRA Flood Rescue Concept of Operations' there are other course options via British Marine which provide HSE and CDM Regulations compliance.

Click or tap to view more information on
Inland Water Safety Management and Marina Water Safety Management

Option A) DEFRA Module 1) Annex 'H' syllabus. 'Water Safety and Rescue Awareness'.

This version of the course was introduced by DEFRA in November 2019 specifically for non-blue-light personnel supporting flooding incidents. It has since become the benchmark qualification for industry, including the civil engineering, construction, maintenance, rail, utilities, inspections, vegetation management, and environmental sectors and is the preferred qualification for Environment Agency contractors.

Especially prevalent for personnel with planned entry to the water; (limited to wading depth - non-buoyant), The Annex 'H' syllabus covers working site assessment,



medical considerations, hierarchy of rescue and the rescue protocol, lifejacket and full rescue grade aquatic PPE training, team shore-based and shallow water rescue techniques, wading as an individual and as a group, dealing with entrapments, co-worker rescue and self-rescue techniques.

We strongly advise undertaking training outside the mid-June to mid-September period due to low water levels and benign, warm conditions. Higher grade venue available year-round at Mod 2) surcharge rate.



Summary:

Candidates do enter the water, therefore a basic swimming ability is required for this course. This is the Environment Agencies' basic level requirement. 1-day training course. The qualification lasts for 3-years if CPD is maintained.

Group size:

Group bookings and individual places can be accommodated. Max x8 candidates per course.

Cost per candidate:

Availability and costs can be obtained from the office:

office@midlandmarine.co.uk

Click or tap to view more information on
Water Safety & Rescue Awareness Summary 

Option B) DEFRA Module 2) 'Water Rescue First Responder'.

This course was designed for the Emergency Services responding to wider area flooding events, 'Water Rescue First Responders' rather than industry. Popular with Lowland Rescue personnel.





This training gives the candidates more exposure to a higher-grade water, more experience, the skills to 'support' Water Rescue Technicians (DEFRA Mod 3 personnel) undertaking their role and is not advised for poor to average swimmers.

Where companies (outside a blue-light remit) feel the need for more in-depth training for their personnel; where more technical equipment is to be used, this two-day course covers searches, rescue sleds, strainer drills, introduction to rescues from vehicles, tethered wades and sleds, in addition to that covered in the Annex 'H' course above.

Venue choices:

Normal courses run in Staffordshire in the River Trent. 'Higher grade water' courses are available year-round in North Wales (client's choice) at a surcharge of £100.00 ex vat per candidate to cover additional expenses. (priority venue mid-June-mid-September due to low water levels)

Summary:

A 2-day training course. Candidates do enter the water. A competent level of swimming ability and good level of physical fitness is required for this course. This course is usually above and beyond the requirement for non-blue-light personnel if delivered correctly to DEFRA guidance and industry standard. The qualification lasts for 3-years if CPD is maintained.

Note: Module 2) was the 'go-to choice' for personnel working in-water prior to the revised DEFRA guidance issued in November 2019 – now superseded by Annex 'H' in 'most' instances.

Group Size:

Bookings accepted for seven candidates.

Cost per candidate:

Availability and costs can be obtained from the office:
office@midlandmarine.co.uk

Click or tap to view more information on
Mod 2 First Responder Summary 



Option C) Shorebased – ‘Standard’ DEFRA

Module 1) ‘Water Safety Awareness’.

Basic level training for still-water, non-flooded environments, where the operative has no ‘planned entry’ to the watercourse

For personnel equipped with a lifejacket, and following the guidance of a risk assessment around bodies of still water,

A half-day Water Safety Awareness course including lifejacket user session, knowledge of hazards within the water environment, basic land-based rescue techniques session with ‘live casualty recovery’, medical considerations, hierarchy of rescue and the rescue protocol.

Summary:

Candidates do not enter the water, so no swimming ability is required for this course.

Ideal for personnel working near bodies of still water, non-flooded environments.
½ day training course. Qualification lasts for 1-year.

Group size:

Bookings accepted on a minimum of SIX candidates. Max 12 per course.

Cost per candidate:

Availability and costs can be obtained from the office:

office@midlandmarine.co.uk





Water Safety & Rescue training courses with Birmingham & Midland Marine Services Ltd are DEFRA, HSE and CDM Regulations 2015 compliant, delivered by our specialist rescue instructors from both Lowland Rescue and Fire and Rescue Services backgrounds.

Our instructor qualifications far exceed the DEFRA Con-Ops standards, our emergency response systems are fully audited: For our client's peace of mind.

Courses are accredited, certificated and audited by Outreach Rescue and the Institute of Search and Technical Rescue.





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