

EASTERN AREA TEMPORARY MEMO 38/11

20 Oct 11

Sponsor: ASO Comms

### **SCC COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALISATION UPDATE**

1. The revision and rewrite of the SCC Communications Specialisation is nearing completion and the syllabus is currently with the TSG for approval. One of the changes is that the specialisation will be renamed to 'Communication and Information Systems (CIS) with two streams, Radio and Information Systems (IS).
2. Clearance has been obtained to hold some pilot courses within the HQSO's own District, so that any issues can be identified early and to find out what the cadets think of the changes. Creating the new syllabus ISpecs took somewhat longer than anticipated so the revised implementation date for the new syllabus will be the start of the next training year, 01 April 2012.
3. Course materials are being developed, and a training programme that supports the transitioning of existing staff plus the training and development of new staff and cadets will be designed and set in motion.

#### **Recruitment and Training for Existing Instructors**

4. Existing instructors of the General stream will have the opportunity to transition to the Radio stream, but to do so will need to undergo some learning in terms of radio technical and either qualify as Radio Amateurs or learn the content of the Data, Satellite & PSTN Telephony packages.
5. Existing Tactical instructors will need to undergo a small amount of transition training to teach the tactical optional training packages and also some technical training required by the mandatory packages.
6. This will be provided on a Train the Trainer basis, Area teams will nominate 3 or 4 people to undergo the transition training and to then be responsible for delivering the same transition training to existing Communications instructors in the Area. For this initial national train the trainer package, an online course will be available from mid-November to be concluded by a weekend at a Sea Cadet Training Centre over the weekend of 13 to 15 January 2012. The same online course will then be available for the delivery of Area based transition training, but it will then be up to the individual Area teams to arrange and execute the residential weekends.
7. Unlike for the Radio stream, there are no existing IS stream instructors to transition, so to build a core group of instructors it is intended to recruit existing AVs who have prior learning and experience in related fields and can undergo a fast tracked course to become instructors in the IS stream. A fast track online course will also be available to those selected for the National Train the Trainer package, with a weekends consolidation on the same weekend of 13 to 15 January 2012.
8. However, most ASO (Comms) will probably not have the necessary knowledge and experience to assess the skills and experience of those who could reasonably undertake the fast track package for IS therefore, initial applications will

be made to the A/HQSO CIS (Information Systems). He will then advise ASOs of those candidates who, from a technical qualification perspective, would be suitable candidates. It will then be passed back to Area teams to determine who of those individuals will be selected for the IS stream Train the Trainer package.

#### Instructor Training for New Instructors

9. The CIS Basic Instructor course is intended to be a completely online course (no residential required). This will be available from 01 January 2012 to give would-be instructors a chance to be ready to deliver the CIS Basic course to cadets in Units when the subject launches properly in April 2012.

As it is an online only course, it will be national in scope, but one benefit of it is that instructors from any area can contribute as online tutors (with approval), tutoring candidates from their own and indeed any other areas.

10. From 01 April 2012 training for Intermediate and Advanced Instructors of both streams will be available on the national programme. This will include fully residential training; the traditional 1 week course and, as an alternative, online courses that culminate in a weekend residential consolidation and assessment module.

#### Cadet Training

11. From 01 April 2012 training for Cadets at Intermediate and Advanced level will be available on the national programme. It is expected that Basic level will be provided at Unit, District and Area levels. Intermediate level may also be delivered at Unit, District and Area levels. It should be noted that ex-cadets with an RO1(G/T) qualification will need to transition to CIS to become an instructor.

#### Badge Design

12. There has been much speculation and rumour on this subject. The proposed badge designs are currently awaiting CSC approval but one of the SCC's current suppliers is already working on prototyping them.

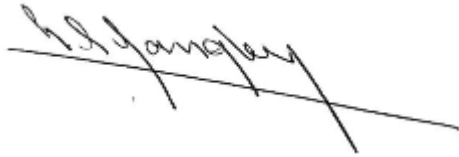
#### Going Forward

13. Any existing Communications (General) Instructor who wishes to volunteer for the Radio stream Train the Trainer transition online training and weekend consolidation should forward their names by email to ASO (Communications) copied to DAO. The 4 instructors to go forward as Train the Trainer candidates will be selected from the list of volunteers.

14. Any adult volunteer who wishes to be considered for the Information Systems stream Train the Trainer transition online training and weekend consolidation should forward their names together with any qualifications or experience material supporting their application by email to A/HQSO CIS (Information Systems), S/Lt (SCC) Ian Woodward RNR ([ahqso-is@scccis.org](mailto:ahqso-is@scccis.org)) copied to DAO and ASO (Communications). Once qualified, these instructors will then organise and roll out the consolidation training weekends for all the other existing Comms instructors in the Area.

15. If you have any questions or require any advice please do not hesitate to contact ASO (Communications), contact details are held in the Area Directory.

16. Cancel this EATM 2 April 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E S Langley', is written over a single horizontal line.

E S LANGLEY  
Commander Royal Navy  
Area Officer