



Press Release

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M.C.A. CHIEF EXAMINER TO TRAVEL TO FORT LAUDERDALE IN OCTOBER 2011

The U.K. government's Maritime and Coastguard Agency will visit Fort Lauderdale just prior to the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show in October 2011, to conduct the oral examinations required in order to attain a M.C.A. Certificate of Competence. Oral exams are required by the MCA in addition to completion of all of the MCA training courses. They can last up to two hours during which time the examiner can ask the candidate anything that is on the syllabus.

18 candidates undertook the Orals in April 2011 with an outstanding pass rate of 80%. "The candidates worked extremely hard, several having rushed from their busy lives aboard yachts, straight into the classroom for oral preparation", said Jim Cartlidge, IYT's Head of Training. International Yacht Training Fort Lauderdale offers a preparatory course in addition to private instruction to ready candidates for the rigorous test. Several companies sponsored the oral preparation week, providing the students with lunches and of course, moral support.

The MCA has agreed to visit Fort Lauderdale twice a year - in April, and just prior to the FLIBS in October. "The MCA's renewed commitment to visit Fort Lauderdale is very important both to the students who have options as to how and where they undertake their oral preparations and to the local yachting community as a whole," said Mike French, CEO of IYT. "We would encourage everyone to keep Fort Lauderdale on the yachting map as a destination. It seems to have been surpassed by other locations that are not nearly as well adapted to yachting."

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Capt. Towner and James Cartlidge, Head of Training



Capt. Towner conducting the exam with a candidate

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