

My comments on the proposed qualification framework outlined in **Attachment A**?

As a recently approved assessor I believe I can give a unique and current perspective to the question of online examinations.

In late 2020 I successfully sat my examination for the Standard qualification via the remote “zoom” examination process, I completed the handwritten answer sheet reading the questions off the monitor screen that was scrolled up and down by the examiner. This process felt very disconnected and unnatural as ensuring that the correct question corresponded to paper answer required constant attention and created additional stress. No opportunity to receive any feedback was available or permitted. Results were misplaced by AMC and took 7 weeks to be passed to ACMA.

In early 2021 I successfully sat my examination for the Advanced qualification in the traditional classroom manor and this process felt familiar without any additional stress induced. No opportunity to receive any feedback was available or permitted. Results were passed to ACMA in about 2-3 weeks.

In May 2023 I successfully sat my examination for the Long Range Operators Certificate of Proficiency. It was conducted at a local Volunteer Marine Rescue Coast Station and was supervised by a qualified assessor under arrangement with AMC. The exam could be conducted via a BYO laptop or on there computer. I was presented with 50 randomly selected multiple choice questions and simply had to select the correct answer as is the norm with online form completion. This process felt familiar and without additional stress. Any incorrect answers could be reviewed with the assessor and complete understanding could be easily achieved on the spot. Results were immediate and the Certificate Card was received by mail within a week.

In conclusion I believe that the examination process should move to that of the computer-based question and answer for remote and classroom examinations. Immediate results are generated, this allows the assessor to spend the time that would have been spent marking the examination paper reviewing and explaining gaps in the student’s knowledge.

As a side note I believe that ACMA should continue the AMC’s practice of issuing assessors with the Assessors Authorisation Card.

Kind regards,

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