

Australian Hydrographic Office - Wollongong NAVY News Item

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FIRST PRESENTATION OF THE MARITIME GEOSPATIAL SPECIALISATION BADGES

The Maritime Geospatial (MG) specialisation warfare badge has now been officially released to qualified hydrographic, and METOC recipients.

Late last year the Maritime Commander (RADM D. Thomas, CSC, RAN) presented the first two Maritime Geospatial (MG) specialisation warfare badges to LEUT Andrew Howe, and to LEUT Joanne Haynes.



LEUT Howe is a newly qualified Hydrographic Surveyor who has recently joined HS White Crew. He is also the winner of the Gowland Memorial Medal, as the Dux of the 2005 H2 Hydrographic Surveying Course.

The approval for the MG specialisation warfare badge was announced last year by CN. The badge awarded to qualified hydrographic officers and senior sailors as well as Meteorology/Oceanography

(METOC) officers. Its design is centred on a quadrant and is otherwise modelled on the PWO and MCDO badges. The quadrant has been selected because it is a traditional marque associated with maritime geospatial observation. Famous MG predecessors such as Captains James Cook and Matthew Flinders were, like their modern counterparts, engaged in a mix of scientific exploration, discovery and environmental prediction, which encompassed the widest range of oceanographic, meteorological and hydrographic observations. The background emblem of a cutlass and a sword acknowledges that the MG badge may be worn by qualified officers and sailors.

MGO-M officers qualify for their badge on completion of the Military METOC Course. For hydrographic specialists, including qualified senior sailors, the MG badge is awarded upon successful completion of H2 training at the RAN Hydrographic School at HMAS PENGUIN.



Photo: Shows new MG officer's Specialisation Badge

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