



## BPM and Seiche: Advanced NZ PAM Operator Assessment

Passive Acoustic Monitoring Operators (PAMOs) wishing to work on marine seismic surveys in New Zealand (NZ) waters must either successfully complete training consistent with the standards outlined in the *2013 Code of Conduct for Minimising Acoustic Disturbance to Marine Mammals from Seismic Survey Operations* or seek the approval of the NZ Government under interim guidelines provided in the Code.

Blue Planet Marine and Seiche have combined forces and created the BPM/Seiche Advanced NZ PAMO Assessment. It is the only assessment for experienced PAMOs approved by the NZ Government as meeting the required standards. Only candidates with 12 or more weeks' experience as a PAMO on marine seismic surveys (anywhere in the world) may undertake the Assessment.

### Blue Planet Marine

BPM is a world-class marine environmental research and consulting service with a focus on marine megafauna (mammals, turtles, seabirds). We work throughout the Pacific, with thousands of MMO/MFO/PAM operational days in New Zealand and Australian waters. We provide industry, non-government and government organisations with independent, quality and informed services.

BPM is one of the most experienced providers of MMO and PAM services operating under the NZ Code of Conduct. We have an office based in New Zealand, run by New Zealanders and providing a dedicated focus in this region.

### Seiche Measurements

Seiche provides world-class training for individuals and companies worldwide, specialising in all aspects of visual marine mammal monitoring, PAM and advanced underwater acoustics. Using experts to develop and deliver their courses, Seiche are a leader in this field.

See [www.seiche.com](http://www.seiche.com) for more information.

### WHY DO THIS ASSESSMENT?

- It is the only advanced PAMO assessment process approved by the NZ Government under the Code.
- It is the fastest route to gaining NZ Government-approved certification to work as a PAMO in NZ.
- After successfully completing the Assessment you will be a *trained* PAMO able to work in NZ waters on marine seismic surveys.
- Once you gain 12 weeks' experience in this role in NZ waters, you will be approved by the NZ Government as a *qualified* PAMO.

- As with other observer courses, undertaking this Assessment does not guarantee you work in NZ. The Assessment will, however, place you in a stronger position to secure a PAMO role in NZ.

### WHO CAN DO THE ASSESSMENT?

Only PAMOs with 12 or more weeks' experience on marine seismic surveys (anywhere in the world) can undertake the Assessment.



## CONTACT

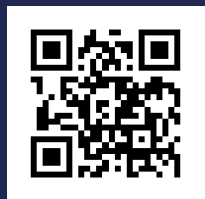
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## ASSESSMENT FOCUS

The Assessment is not a training course. It is a process for assessing your existing PAM skills and knowledge against the standards required in the Code.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

To undertake the Assessment you must complete an application process, which provides evidence of your PAMO experience and knowledge. If your application is approved you may undertake the Assessment.

## ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

The Assessment includes online modules and a 3-day, in-person practical component, including a final written examination. An experienced PAMO will deliver the practical component, with additional tutors dependent on group size. Group size is limited to a maximum of 12 candidates.

## ONLINE MODULES

The 3 online modules cover:

- NZ Code of Conduct
- Navigation
- General Seismic Operations

The modules will take about 1-2 days to complete depending on previous experience/knowledge. Module content is enhanced by diagrams, images, supplementary reading materials, and videos to reinforce content. Online support is available via email.

## PRACTICAL COMPONENT

The 3-day practical component includes classroom and sea-based activities to consolidate learning from the online modules and assess your existing PAM knowledge and skills via a set of practical exercises. The practical exercises will test your ability to:

- Set up and optimise the deployment of a Seiche PAM system
- Use PAMGuard software to:
  - detect and identify vocalising cetaceans;
  - measure distance to and bearing of vocalising cetaceans while

accounting for vessel movement; and

- plot positions of cetaceans relative to the seismic vessel and acoustic source

- Complete Department of Conservation Reporting Forms

During the practical component you will sit a final written examination focussed on the content of the online modules. A mark of 75% or higher must be achieved in order to pass the examination.

## INTERESTED IN UNDERTAKING THE BPM/SEICHE ADVANCED NZ PAM OPERATOR ASSESSMENT?

For an application form or more information please contact:

[info@blueplanetmarine.com](mailto:info@blueplanetmarine.com)

## ARE YOU NEW TO PAM AND INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PAMO?

BPM and Seiche are finalising a training course for people new to PAM and wanting to work in NZ. Contact [info@blueplanetmarine.com](mailto:info@blueplanetmarine.com) for more information.

Seiche also offers a range of PAM training courses (not specific to NZ) that cater for beginner to more advanced levels of understanding and experience. More information about these training courses can be found at: [www.seiche.com](http://www.seiche.com).

