

BEWARE OF FALSE CREDENTIALS IN MARINE SURVEYORS!

CMS is a designation issued by the National Association of Marine Surveyors (NAMS).

AMS is a designation issued by the Society of Accredited Marine Surveyors (SAMS).

What does it mean to be “Certified” or “Accredited” as a marine surveyor.

1. Certified Marine Surveyor (NAMS-CMS) is an “Earned” credential from the National Association of Marine Surveyors.
2. Accredited Marine Surveyor (SAMS-AMS) is an “Earned” credential from the Society of Accredited Marine Surveyors.

NAMS and SAMS are the only recognized and respected marine surveyor professional associations in the United States who hold their members to a strict code of professional ethics, and require continuing education credits to remain as a member in good standing. Both of these organizations require applicants to prove experience in the field of marine surveying, and to pass a very comprehensive test before they allow them to “Earn” Certification or Accreditation.

UNFORTUNATELY SCAMS DO EXIST IN THIS PROFESSION!

There are a few “Mail Order” schools and organizations who issue a “certificate” for a few hundred dollars in an effort to give otherwise unqualified marine surveyors a “credential” that they typically use to try and *Fool Perspective Clients* into believing that they are as qualified as those who have earned NAMS-CMS or SAMS-AMS. These scam organizations may advertise that they require applicants to pass a test, but the test is as much a scam as the rest of the pretense of a meaningful credential.

Don’t be duped by a surveyor who is trying to claim a credential that they have not earned. Many individuals who could not meet the requirements to join NAMS or SAMS are out there advertising and claiming to be “Certified” or “Accredited”, or using “CMS” or “AMS” behind their names. They may have even combined the initials to skirt registered or trademarked credentials. If they will lie to you about their credentials and qualifications, how can you trust them to be ethical and honest about the condition and value of the yacht!

Before you accept a surveyor’s credentials, check the website rosters of the two professional organizations.

NAMS [Http://www.nams-cms.org](http://www.nams-cms.org)

SAMS [Http://www.marinesurvey.org](http://www.marinesurvey.org)

If they are not listed there, then they have not “Earned” the right to use CMS or AMS, or to call themselves Certified or Accredited.

It is “Buyer Beware” in surveyors the same as it is in boats.