

INTERNATIONAL DIVING SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION

**iDSEA**

**NEWS**

EDITION NO.24 JULY 2014

**THE ANNUAL MEETING OSLO**

**NEWS FROM SCHOOLS**

**A NEW SCHOOL OPEN IN THE  
SOUTH WEST OF ENGLAND**

**THE USE OF SCUBA**





# Cygnus DIVE Underwater CYGNUS Wrist-Mountable Thickness Gauge



## NEW Model

Available early 2014 with  
many additional features  
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for details

**Now Available with Twin Crystal Probes for  
Easier Measurements on Heavy Corrosion**

- + Wrist mountable thickness gauge
- + Measures through coatings in multiple echo mode
  - + Data logging capability
  - + Large colour A-Scan display
- + Topside monitoring with measurements  
video overlaid
- + Twin crystal probe option for heavy corrosion



**NEWS** EDITION NO.23 JANUARY 2014

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#### COVER PHOTO

Taken by staff from the Regional Centre for Divers Training and Underwater Demining in Montenegro. It shows a diver cutting plate in order to provide access for the recovery of unexploded ordnance, remote from the cut, from a wreck in the Bay of Boka Kotorska

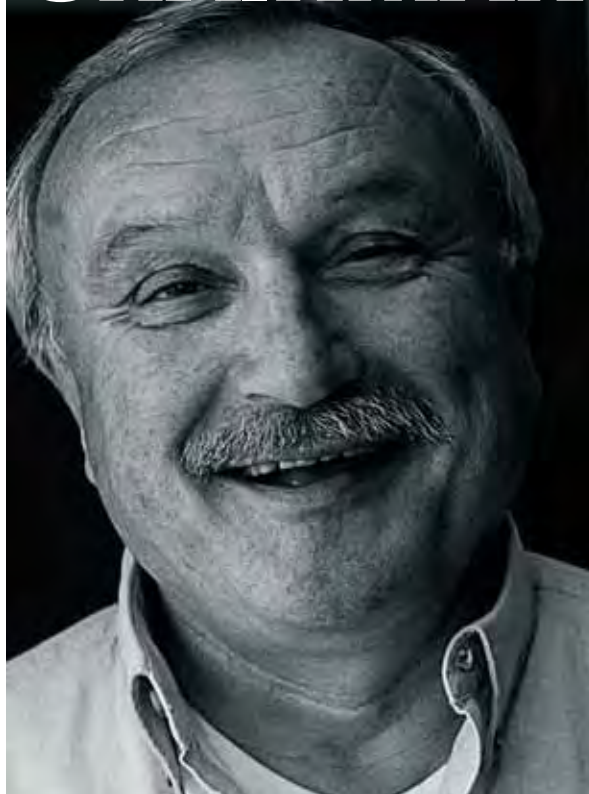
#### EDITORIAL APOLOGY

In the last issue of IDSAs News (23) the partnership of Maritime Training & Competence Solutions and KB Associates was described on page 25.

Inadvertently, the title of the article was misspelt and should have read "Diving Safety is Paramount, says new partnership KB Associates and MTCS Ltd".

The Editor apologises sincerely to the two companies for this error.

# FROM THE CHAIRMAN



I am, as always, very pleased to welcome new members to the Association, and in this issue I welcome the Full Member School 'Ecole Nationale des Scaphandriers' (ENS) based near Toulon, new Associate members : the Egyptian International Diving School from Alexandria, and the Dolphin Dive Academy from India, and Affiliate member Aquadream from Cyprus.

*The ENS Diving Vessel Portree II during the School's IDSAs Audit February 2014*



ENS Director – Jerome Vincent

We are once again nearing the 32nd Annual Meeting of the Association, in Oslo where the meeting was held once before in 1997, and NYD our host has just celebrated its 25th anniversary.



Now the Standards have been published our aim will be to keep them as up to date as possible by taking into account changes in working practices, new technology, safety procedures, and other relevant matters which will improve the quality of the divers that carry our qualification cards. All members are asked to mail comment or suggestions to the Administrator who will collate them and bring them to the next Annual Meeting. We intend to start this practice in Oslo and ask that members contact the Administrator with anything they would like discussed by the 1st of September. It will then be possible to include them in the Agenda.

The practice of schools pooling resources to provide the necessary facilities and staff to run an IDSAs course where it would not be possible individually, is developing and is proving successful. I hope that we may have some discussion on this subject and also concerning the use of interpreters/translators during our meeting.

Working together, building on the work we have carried out over past years, and enlisting the support of all schools and related organisations, Industry and Government to join us in our progress towards the widespread introduction of truly consistent, safe, high quality International Diver Training Standards, based on the foundation we have already built

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in Oslo, and if you are not able to attend, please do not hesitate to mail us with any matter you think should be discussed

Leo Lagarde

# THE IDSA ANNUAL MEETING

15th TO 17th SEPTEMBER 2014

TO BE HELD AT THE THON HOTEL OPERA, OSLO HOSTED BY  
THE NORWEGIAN COMMERCIAL DIVING SCHOOL (NYD)



The meeting this year is hosted by one of the oldest and most respected schools in the Association – The Norwegian Commercial Diving School (Norsk Yrkesdykkerskole) usually known as 'NYD', situated in Fagerstrand some 40km South of Oslo

## ATTENDANCE

In addition to Association Members the meeting is open to non-members as observers. The fee for members is set at €400 (3300 NOK) and for non-members

€450 (3700 NOK), it will cover attendance, refreshments, lunches, transport and the Association dinner Wives or Partners wishing to attend meals and other social occasions e.g. the Association Dinner may do so paying the amount relevant to the event.

Delegates and observers are asked to complete a registration form which may be downloaded from our Website [www.idsaworldwide.org](http://www.idsaworldwide.org) or from the Administrator

## TRAVEL

Oslo's main airport is 'Gardermoen' It is connected to the Central Rail Station in Oslo by an express service which takes

which runs every 10 minutes with a journey time of 20 mins, and the fare is about Euros20. The central station is just 2 minutes walk from the meeting Hotel.

There are two other airports which serve Oslo, 'Torp' 110 km from Oslo and 'Rygge' 66 km.

Both have a bus service to Oslo.

## THE OUTLINE PROGRAMME

### Sunday 14th

**1830 to 2030** Welcome drinks at the meeting Hotel – Thon Hotel Opera.

### Monday 15th

**0930** Welcome address

**0940** Meeting Session 1 – IDSA Administration, past, present and future.

**1245** Group Photograph

**1300** Lunch

**1400** Meeting Session 2 – Training matters : availability of chambers, practical assessments

**1630** End of the Day

### Tuesday 16th

**0930** Meeting Session 3 – Diver recovery, auditing experience, records

**1300** Lunch

**1345** Travel to the Norwegian Commercial School

**1430** Presentations, Demonstrations and tour of the school

**1700** Return to Hotel

**1930** Association dinner at the Meeting Hotel

### Wednesday 17th

**0930** Meeting Session 4

**1000** An Industry View of Diver Training – Oeyvind Loennechen from Technip

**1045** A presentation of Norwegian and Dutch views on current T.U.P. techniques and the need for a suitable qualification, followed by discussion

**1200** Meeting ends

## ACCOMMODATION

The Meeting Hotel is the 'Thon Hotel Opera' situated in Central Oslo on the Waterfront with excellent views of Oslo Fjord, and only 2 minutes walk from the Airport Express Terminal. The link to the Hotel is : <http://www.thonhotels.com/hotels/countrys/norway/oslo/thon-hotel-opera/>

NYD has been able to arrange a special rate which is Euros 160 (1320 NOK) per room per night single occupancy and Euros 185 (1525 NOK) per night double occupancy, both rates with breakfast included. Delegates must make their own bookings on [opera@thonhotels.no](mailto:opera@thonhotels.no) quoting our conference booking reference 10741723. Delegates and Observers should note that the special rate is only available until 1st August.

## ADMINISTRATION

Please contact the Administrator [info@idsaworldwide.org](mailto:info@idsaworldwide.org)

for help with travel accommodation or any other problems .

## ABOUT IDSA

The Association is concerned with all divers - Offshore, Inshore and Inland - and has established International Diver Training Standards based on the consensus view of its many members. The Standards provide both a yardstick for those responsible for either administering existing National or creating new ones, and a guide for Clients, Diving Contractors and Divers themselves. It is considered that the introduction of these internationally agreed diver training standards will have the effect of:

- Improving Safety
- Providing Contractors with a direct input to the Diver Training Syllabus
- Enabling Contractors to bid across National Borders on a more even playing field
- Improving Diver competence
- Providing Divers with greater Job

## OPPORTUNITIES

Some governments have and will, set their own National diver training requirements. The IDSA programme provides a means of equating National Standards by maintaining a Table of Equivalence.

One of the main thrusts is towards International Diver Certification in order to bring together the various National Schemes which are currently in existence. However, the Association is not just concerned with standards; it also serves as a valuable forum for the interchange of News & Views between members, many of whom are the only Commercial School in their Country. Current routes for this interchange are the Newsletter - published in January and July, the IDSA Website [www.idsaworld.org](http://www.idsaworld.org) the Annual meeting in September/October, and various and many forms of contact between members and the Executive Board.

For Membership and all other information contact the Administrator at [info@idsaworldwide.org](mailto:info@idsaworldwide.org)

# FF 23, YRKESDYKARSKOLAN IN GOTHENBURG, SWEDEN



*David Keats of Speciality Welds , discussing weld quality with a student.*

**T**he School has now arrived at our new premises in Svanesund which is about 45 minutes north of Gothenburg. We now have the full capacity to carry out professional dives and lessons with classes of up to 30 students.

Our current commercial divers class, started its training in autumn 2013, and did the basic welding training week in February. We use the "Speciality Welds" training programs, and it is now the fourth time and class that David Keats teach our students.

In the second training week ( week 21) which included welding underwater, 30 students were trained and an examination was conducted on Saturday 24th May with 9 students. Within the next few weeks our wet bell will arrive from the workshop, where it will be fully equipped with video systems and backup systems. This autumn, we will start our first course using the wet bell and apply for approval to teach the IDSA level 3 qualification.



*The Wet Bell in the final stages of preparation for its journey to Svanesund*



## WORLD FIRST AS UNDERWATER CENTRE INTRODUCES NEW DIVER TRAINING COURSE

Steve Ham  
- The Centre's  
General  
Manager

The course covers theoretical classroom-based training, as well as practical application including mobilising a Nitrox spread, monitoring a Nitrox dive, oxygen cleaning, system maintenance and partial pressure blending. Candidates also undertake a dive on Nitrox in a dedicated area within the Centre's onshore tank complex.

The three-day intensive course has been developed after consultation with industry and aims to help companies ensure the competency of their Nitrox diving team.

Osiris, the marine services company that is part of James Fisher and Sons plc, has sent the first group of candidates to train on the pilot course. Candidates from the company included dive technicians, dive supervisors, a project manager and commercial divers, who now benefit from a greater theoretical and practical understanding of Nitrox diving.

The Centre's General Manager, Steve Ham, believes that by listening to the needs of industry the courses being run at the Centre will help to resolve the subsea industry's staff development problems.

"Following feedback from operators and contractors we saw there was a need to provide training in Nitrox as it is becoming an increasingly common method of commercial diving in the offshore industry," he said.

"The new course has been developed to give candidates the knowledge and understanding required to use Nitrox, become familiar with the equipment and also gain a better understanding of the benefits of its use."

Osiris' General Diving Manager Kevin Hood added: "This training gives our team a good all-round understanding of diving on Nitrox, to a standard which meets industry approval and will also clear up any grey areas which may exist from previous lack of specific training. It also gives the opportunity to reset and start from a proper foundation."

Aiden West, Managing Director of Osiris, said: "With the coming together of offshore wind and offshore activities in general, being the first to undertake this course ensures Osiris can meet all expectations of current and future offshore clients."

"James Fisher and Sons plc continues to invest within its diving and ROV divisions as it continues to develop its service as a complete subsea solutions provider for the global upstream oil and gas market."

"The Underwater Centre has conducted the course professionally and efficiently – I have been very impressed with the course and the facilities it has to offer."

The Underwater Centre is a purpose built training facility which incorporates an extensive pier complex including four dive stations, classrooms, workshops and decompression chambers.

With accommodation and additional classrooms based at the landward end of the pier, The Underwater Centre is set up to provide its students with the skills and experience to succeed in their new careers, and continue providing the subsea industry with the workforce that it needs.

Anyone interested in more information about The Underwater Centre should contact 01397 703 786 or [fortwilliam@theunderwatercentre.com](mailto:fortwilliam@theunderwatercentre.com).

**T**he first ever commercial diver training course in the use of Enriched Air Nitrox has been launched by the Fort William-based subsea training and trials facility, The Underwater Centre.

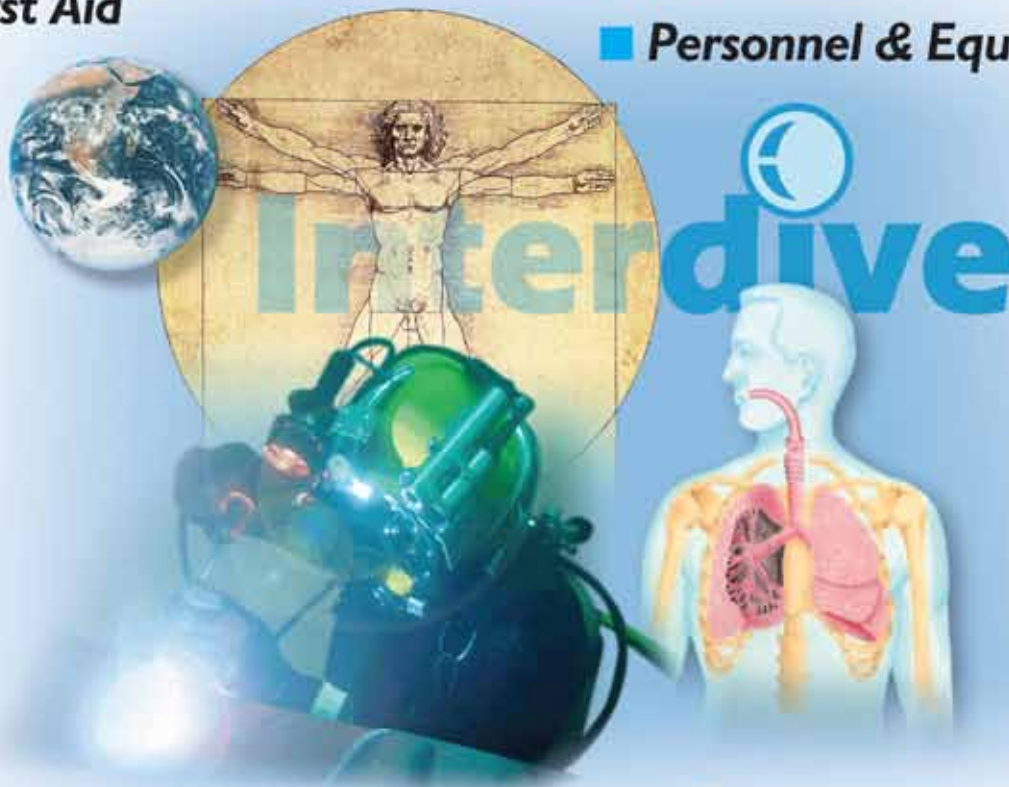
The training is already widely available in leisure diving but until now the use of Nitrox for commercial diving, which allows divers to spend longer at shallower depths and can reduce the risk of decompression illness, has predominantly been learned on the job.

The Underwater Centre has invested in new equipment to deliver the training, including an LP Nitrox producing membrane system and clean air HP compressors, Nitrox storage bank, 2 diver Nitrox panel and a dedicated clean room.



# Offshore diving operations management and training

- **IMCA Diver Medic**
- **IMCA Trainee Air & Bell Diving Supervisor**
- **IMCA ALST**
- **IMCA & IDSA Diver Assessments**
- **HSE Offshore Medic**
- **Advanced Medical Skills**
- **First Aid & Emergency First Aid**
- **MCA Medical Courses**
- **RYA First Aid**
- **HSE Approved Courses**
- **Overseas Training**
- **In-House Training**
- **NPD Leadership**
- **DSV Audits**
- **Risk Assessments**
- **Personnel & Equipment**



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IN SUPPORT OF  
THE ELC SCHEME



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# MS FOR VIDEO AND AUDIO COMMUNICATIONS,

developed in Italy  
by IDSA associate under  
VicSystem brand.

It's been a year since we presented our first models at the IDSA meeting in Copenhagen. Now, in our research and development laboratory in our new SAN MARINO office, we have developed new versions of the portable CCTV system from surface (MINIEXPLORER), and underwater cameras (MINICAMMIICAM SET). Our Research and Development team has developed and is already testing other new products, the result of continual research into the specific needs of the commercial diving field. One of the most keenly anticipated and widely used products will definitely be the new "4-LINK" interface. This can be used with a two-wire power cord (or cords today used exclusively for audio communication), including to connect video, audio duplex and spotlights between the surface and the divers.

During the IDSA audit held in Palermo on 6th-7th May at the CEDIFOP training center, the representatives of the association, Mr. BAX and Mr. Lagarde, had the opportunity to personally experience and appreciate the new versions of our equipment. Of particular note were the new

MINIEXPLORER DELUXE PLUS and the new cameras with the new Sony Super Had CCD 700 TVL EX view III 960H, equipped with an integrated video processor that automatically adjusts the picture according to visibility conditions. They are suitable for their lightness in full face masks and use our exclusive patent called "Self Sealing System" which utilises a double container of different material, and a series of seals, to create a single watertight case and exploit the force exerted by the underwater pressure for greater sealing. In addition, the watertight isolation of the two internal compartments between lens, glass and CCD circuit, prevents internal fogging in the presence of large temperature variations ensuring utmost clarity of image. During the audit, underwater shooting of welding and heat cutting were transmitted in live stream using the MINIEXPLORER DELUXE. They were observed remotely from our web TV channel by many users connected specially for the occasion with excellent results in terms of audio / video quality and fluidity. The films can be viewed at the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/vicsystemrsm>. It is precisely the IP network connection that is the strong point of the MINIEXPLORER DELUXE PLUS. For example in personnel certification inspections of vessels or other work, it allows remote supervision without geographical limits and operations can be directed from a company's offices using the telephone connection and they can view / listen to the broadcasts using PC, Mac or tablet devices: with all the obvious advantages in terms of time and cost efficiency.

Today we can state, and this is also recognized by our customers and companies that distribute our products, that our equipment is the new generation of audio / video equipment in the field of commercial diving.

Each implementation has been made, developed and designed in our research and development laboratory, to specific requirements asked for by companies operating in the sector, be it for commercial or military use.

During the IDSA meeting in Oslo in 2014, all participants will have the opportunity to personally inspect and test all the analogue and digital functions of the new MINIEXPLORER DELUXE PLUS and the new MINICAM and MINICAM SET.

Giuseppe Basile AS62

[www.vicsystem.it](http://www.vicsystem.it)



LEO Lagarde in discussion with Giuseppe Basile In his Palermo workshop.



Multigauge 3000

simple . accurate . robust

## Tritex Multiple Echo Underwater Thickness Gauges

Measure metal thickness only and ignore coatings!



**PERFORMANCE** is the most important feature of our ultrasonic thickness gauges.

You want the gauge to give reliable, accurate measurements in the most demanding of applications.

Whether it's coated, bare metal, corroded or clean, the Tritex Multigauge range has proven to be reliable, simple, accurate and robust. Our excellent performance means only one single-crystal probe type is required for all applications, even on the most heavily corroded steel. Our hand held Multigauge 3000 has proven itself to be a worthwhile choice by many divers.

Tritex gives you the performance that you would expect, with free annual calibration for the life of the gauge.



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# New Tritex Multigauge 5700 Datalogger

**D**orchester based, Tritex NDT have launched their new Multigauge 5700 Datalogger Metal Thickness Gauge. The new gauge, has all the advantages of the very popular Multigauge 5600 but with the added benefit of storing readings on the gauge. The Multigauge 5700 Datalogger includes an onboard memory for recording measurements in either a grid or string format, or combination of both. The readings are then transferred to a PC or laptop using wireless technology, which also allows remote gauging if required. The versatile intuitive software includes simple wizards which guide the user in setting up templates or files for various applications. The gauge has been designed in line with Tritex's concept of Simple, Accurate and Robust.

The gauge utilises the Multiple Echo technique to ignore coatings up to 6mm thick and just measures the metal substrate. No grinding or removal of the coatings is required, significantly reducing preparation time and ultimately saving both time and money when carrying out inspections. All probes have Intelligent Probe Recognition (IPR), which automatically adjusts settings in the gauge when connected, resulting in a perfectly matched probe and gauge for enhanced performance. Also, the Automatic Measurement Verification System (AMVS) ensures only true measurements are displayed, even on the most heavily corroded metals.

Single crystal probes, which have a number of advantages when measuring on curved and corroded surfaces, are protected by a membrane ensuring the probe does not easily get damaged.

The new Multigauge 5700 Datalogger is supplied as a complete kit, ready to use, with a 3 year warranty and free calibration for the life of the gauge.

For further information please contact Mr JonSharland using the contact details below, or go to [www.tritexndt.com](http://www.tritexndt.com).



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## TRAINING

### Health & Safety

- NEBOSH WSH Qualification to International Diploma levels
- NEBOSH ITC in Oil & Gas Operational Safety
- IOSH Training
- CIEH Training (Environment, Fire, Food, Health & Safety, First Aid)

### IMCA Diving Courses

- Assistant Life Support Technician
- Trainee AIR/BELL Diving Supervisor
- Diver Medic Technician/Refresher

### Commercial Diving Courses

- Diving System Assurance
- OGP Client Representative
- Failure Mode & Effect Analysis
- KMB Helmet Technician



## NEW COMPETENCY TRAINING

### A Dive Technician Course – Modular Programme

A three-week training programme that aims to develop the all-round competence of Dive Technicians in support of the diving system maintenance and equipment.

### B Commercial Diving Association (Singapore) / Ministry of Manpower (Singapore)

- Commercial Diver Training
- Inland/Inshore Diving Supervisor



### Contact us

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W : [www.kbatraining.org](http://www.kbatraining.org)



# SANTA BARBARA CITY COLLEGE

Geoff Thielst -Director Marine Diving Technologies

**T**he Marine Diving Technologies (MDT) department has begun an ongoing cooperative relationship with California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo to perform light construction and inspection operations at the University's Center for Coastal Marine Studies facility in Port San Luis Obispo.

The Cal Poly facility is located approximately 220 kilometers north of Santa Barbara and requires careful planning and mobilization for personnel and equipment to ensure project success. Working remote from the dive school requires the students to review and comprehend the scope and specification for the work to be completed. Students, with the assistance of both diving and engineering faculty develop a project execution plan, define the tools and equipment required and manage the project from mobilization through implementation and final demobilization.

SBCC students planning a dive



The 900 meter long pier consists of five platforms designed and fabricated in similar fashion to offshore energy facilities they serve as anchors to support 112 roadway bents. This design offers exceptional opportunity for diving students to work and practice in real world conditions. Diving conditions offer the students additional challenges as water temperatures range from 10 to 15 degrees Celsius with underwater visibility approximately a meter most of the majority of the time.

In a symbiotic relationship the Cal Poly students gain valuable experience working with the student divers to better understand the capabilities and limitations of commercial divers and the underwater environment. Recent activities have included a riser installation for a submersible telemetry pod, cleaning and inspection of structural members, cathodic protection evaluation, and debris removal.

Diver Launch and Recovery



# CEDIFOP

In April 2014 CEDIFOP successfully completed the re-audits required by IMCA to renew approval (first obtained in 2011) - to continue running basic and refresher Diver Medic (DMT) training courses, for the next 3 years

Courses at CEDIFOP meet with the international training standards of IDSA, required by a Full Member School (the only one in Italy). It is understood that to manage a safe and competent working diving operation, both inshore and offshore, three different standards must exist: a training standard for Divers (IDSA), a code of practice at work (IMCA); a safety standard at work (HSE), all those standard are the basis of training at CEDIFOP.

On the 6 & 7th of May CEDIFOP successfully completed a re-audit by IDSA in order to retain its status as a "Full Member School (Diver Training)", first obtained in 2009 Chairman of IDSA, Mr Leo Lagarde from Holland, and Administrator of IDSA, Mr Alan Bax from England, conducted the re-audit process in Palermo.



**Manos Kouvakis**

On the 7th May there was a welcome guest at CEDIFOP, Snr Daniele Fano, who is active in political labour affairs. Until February 2014, Mr Fano was Head of the Policy Unit at the Italian Ministry of Labour where he was mainly involved in

the development of activities to combat unemployment, especially for young people – in particular the "Youth". His visit gave him the opportunity to observe at first hand the inner workings of training at CEDIFOP, both the teaching process and specific procedures during practical sessions, conforming to the IDSA Standards for commercial diver training. Snr Fano was also able to observe the IDSA audit process, which all IDSA Schools must undergo periodically, to certify the quality of training.

Snr Fano's visit was important as it gave him the opportunity to see the high standards which define the work of CEDIFOP, together with the strict auditing procedures of IDSA. As such, the Standards support the efforts of the Italian governments initiatives, and help to raise standards throughout the country

## NDC

For several years now the Dutch authorities have been re-organising their sectors to comply with EU Law and Dutch policy of a retreating government. Here is a brief summary of the situation to date from the Managing Director of ASK Dienstencentrum BV Carin Bot:



**Carin Bot**

"In 1990 I started to work as a Management Assistant at the Netherlands Diving Centre (NDC) in Delft, which worked on behalf of the Diving Industry. The objective of the NDC was to organize training courses in cooperation with the Dutch Royal Army, certify individuals, and promote the interests of Dutch Diving industry, the portal between government and industry.

The NDC was founded mid 80's on request of Dutch Government to collect the expertise of employers and employees for the Working Conditions Law.

Since the beginning of this century the Dutch government changed its policy in a directing role. A retreating government with less officials and more responsibility handed over to the sectors.

In 2005 the legislation about certification and accreditation changed, based on the ISO IEC 17024 Norm which, requires certification and training to be separated entities. For branches with the status "risk full" the Dutch government used one model for branches acting in a risk-full sector. This meant that the Dutch Diving Industry also had to change its organization.

In 2010 the employees of the NDC were transferred to a private company, 'ASK Dienstencentrum BV'.

The NDC will change its name to NDC Certifying Institute in 2014 will have only one task, certifying individuals.

The Foundation Hyperbaric Labour (SWOD): collects the expertise of employees and employers in the sector (civil sector, Defense and public safety) and is the portal between government and sector. SWOD manages the certification schemes, the itembank and the Health and Safety Catalogue (inventory of risks and measurements)

The Foundation Training and Knowledge Centre Hyperbaric Labour (Stichting NOK) will collect the expertise of employees and employers in the civil sector and will organize trainings as well.

Since 2010 I am the managing director of ASK Dienstencentrum BV, which will carry out the Secretarial and administrative work for all new foundations, the administrative team consists of :

- Carin Bot, Managing Director
- Erwin Helderman is head Knowledge Centre
- Rebecca de Bruin, is receptionist and administrative assistant
- Stefanie van Thuijl, secretary
- Ton van der Helm, webdesigner
- Ton van Ostende, accountant
- Jos van Leth, examiner on a freelance base
- Wim Gerrits, examiner on a freelance base

All our clients, the mentioned foundations, make their own policy, my team is entirely for administrative support, the Chairmen of the various groups make their own decisions.



offering related IMCA medical training courses worldwide.

A number of contracts have recently been accepted around the world including contractors based in Turkey, Nigeria and Indonesia. It is intended that the new service will result in raising the standard of Diving Medical Support for commercial diving contractors worldwide.

If you are interested in any of DiveDoctor's services, please contact Scott Lee at [scott@divedoctor.com](mailto:scott@divedoctor.com) or call +44(0)1224 698 895.



## NATIONAL HYPERBARIC CENTRE TO OPEN IN SINGAPORE

The National Hyperbaric Centre is opening an office in Singapore to provide subsea-related Training, Consulting, Diving/ROV Technical support and senior industry personnel for specialist projects. The new facility will be based in Loyang, close to the airport for visiting course attendees.

Sandy Harper, NHC Associate Director, said: "The new Centre will reinforce NHC's commitment to provide world class subsea training and services which will help to improve safety in the Diving Industry. Our commitment to Singapore has strategic significance, allowing us to deliver our services in a region

## NEWS FROM NHC NEW DIVEDOCTOR SERVICE

DiveDoctor, the worldwide emergency telephone service for commercial diving companies, is experiencing rapid growth in the support of diving operations in remote locations.

DiveDoctor has been developed by the National Hyperbaric Centre to provide a package that can help small to medium sized diving companies ensure their diving operations have viable medical support procedures in place in the form of a 24 hour emergency telephone service. DiveDoctor can also audit Emergency Response Procedures, medical equipment and provide related training.

After concerns regarding a number of incidents on dive sites around the globe, National Hyperbaric Centre uncovered that many commercial diving companies rarely have in place a formal contract for Diving Medical Support. This is mainly due to:

A lack of awareness of a legal requirement to have adequate provision for such adequate healthcare.

- A belief that, in the event of an emergency, local Government owned emergency services will intervene, which is not always the case.

A number of client companies are now requesting that a Diving Contractor must provide 'written confirmation that arrangements have been made with a registered, approved medical practitioner for the provision of medical support for situations which are beyond the capabilities of the on-site diver medics.'

The variety of diving operations operating globally adds to the need for a flexible, encompassing service which can provide specialist knowledge and advice 24 hours a day. DiveDoctor provides affordable access to emergency and non-emergency advice and support from a team of specially trained diving doctors:

"The service enables on-site medical personnel, such as the Supervisor or Diver Medic to speak to a qualified and experienced diving doctor at any time of day or night, all year round." confirmed David Smith, Managing Director.

The nature of the DiveDoctor contract means that it can be tailored to suit a variety of applications; additional services are also on offer to assist companies with developing robust Emergency Response Procedures, procuring and maintaining medical equipment and

that has recently lacked choice".

NHC received tremendous response following attendance at exhibitions and events in the AsiaPac region, giving encouragement that a local presence would enhance subsea safety within the region.

NHC has recruited Singapore-based Bernice Tan, Business Development Manager, who has been identifying key requirements of clients in the region.

The first courses to be launched will be NHC's highly-renowned OGP Client Representative Course and Dive System Auditing and Assurance Course.

These are complimented with a unique and new ROV System Auditing and Assurance Course (to take place 28th – 30th of April 2014).

NHC's Consulting Department will also be developed to provide specialist consultancy services in the form of experienced Client Representatives, Auditors and Diving Technical and Operational Support to progress safe and efficient subsea operations.

For more information about National Hyperbaric Centre Singapore, please contact Bernice Tan at [btan@nationalhyperbariccentre.com](mailto:btan@nationalhyperbariccentre.com)



# A NEW SCHOOL

COMMERCIAL DIVER  
TRAINING Ltd



**C**ommercial Diver Training Limited (CDT) was formed in 2013 by two individuals, frustrated by the standard of new divers entering the UK Inshore and Offshore Diving Industries.

George Gradon, formerly of Fort Bovisand, now Subsea 7 aboard the Saturation Dive Support Vessel Seven Falcon, and Warren Salliss, former Royal Marine, now Ops Manager for GGML: UK based Inshore Diving Contractor, have built the school from scratch.

The original concept was to run residential programmes based aboard a former Admiralty Fleet Tender, utilizing a wide variety of work boats, RIBs and trailer mounted spreads, varying training locations and undertaking realistic tasks with current tools and techniques. This is now a reality. The school is 6 weeks into its second 9 week programme. Candidates are accommodated in twin cabins aboard CDT's primary dive vessel 'Hambleton' living, eating and training together, as a team.

Commercial Diver Training Limited is the only assessment organisation approved by the Health and Safety Executive to undertake all air diving qualifications in England and Wales, and is now fully operational, operating from coastal locations in the Southwest of England.

The Instructors and Assessors are drawn GGML's regular staff, or direct from industry. The team has extensive experience in both inshore and offshore diving procedures. They also have significant media, scientific and archaeological project experience. All personnel are current in the latest industry practices, given that they all still work in the "real world"

CDT Candidates are not simply taught to "blow bubbles" and perform safety drills, but are engaged in tasks, relevant to their level of training, from the first dive to the last dive of their chosen course.

When trainees consider where to commence their new careers as commercial divers, they should ask the training provider this simple question: "Where was my Instructor working last month?" The majority of schools will almost certainly answer "Here, at the school!"

CDT staff were more likely to have been working 150 meters below the surface of the North Sea, supervising an Inshore or Offshore diving project, diving in support of the Renewables Energy Sector, carrying out moorings inspection and maintenance or diving on the outer pressure hull of a Royal Navy Nuclear Submarine.

CDT's team are working divers who train divers to work

The courses are challenging, both mentally and physically. Sometimes trainees not be able to see their hands in front of their face. They may be uncomfortable. They'll possibly be struggling in the tide, trying to complete a task that seems unachievable. CDT teaches candidates to overcome their difficulties and achieve their potential, in a wide variety of environments, in an even wider variety of equipment configurations. The school gives the trainees the "tools" to get the job done safely and efficiently.

Candidates undertake "home work", writing up reports, preparing project plans, risk assessments etc, as well as theoretical revision in preparation for the formal exams that take place towards the end of each individual module.

Practical assessments are conducted throughout the courses with students receiving a "day mark" so they can accurately gauge their own progress. There are formal weekly interviews with the Course Instructor, to identify areas of strength and opportunities for improvement within an individual's performance.

The main programmes offered by the school are as follows:

HSE Professional SCUBA:

Self Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus (SCUBA) is generally utilized during scientific, media and archaeological projects, hence CDT students will participate in the following activities over the 4 week course, in addition to the mandatory syllabus laid down by the HSE

First Aid @ Work + Emergency Oxygen Administration (Theoretical and practical)

Archaeological dimensional surveys and stills photography

Scientific studies including sea bed sampling, pre disturbance surveys and species identification studies

Introduction to media diving, set rigging and underwater filming support

All task training are supported by guest lectures by personnel currently engaged in the film industry, natural history and current affairs/news networks, scientific and archaeological communities.

**S**mall boat handling and basic seamanship are essential skills, so are introduced early in the course programme thus give students maximum opportunity to gain additional experience.

Students also repeatedly dive virtually every equipment configuration/style currently being used in industry, mastering all.

Pre and post dive chamber checks, chamber operation and chamber tending are taught within the HSE SCUBA Course

CDT instructional staff have been involved in numerous media projects ranging from major features at Pinewood Studios 007 set and location shoots World War Z, to BBC Natural History Film Unit productions such as Blue Planet, BBC's Country File, Bargain Hunt, Local and National News features, Discovery Channel documentaries etc

This first-hand experience and varied programme makes CDS's Professional SCUBA course unique.



## HSE SURFACE SUPPLY

**S**urface Supplied Diving Equipment (SSDE) provides the diver with an unlimited gas supply, allows reliable communications with "Top-Side" and offers the diver enhanced head protection. This system is therefore used extensively in the Inshore/Inland construction diving industry.

CDT prepares students to gain employment as working divers, and therefore trains all personnel in an extensive range of tools and techniques as part of the Surface Supplied programme, again over and above the mandatory HSE syllabus.

Hydraulic and pneumatic tools, air lifts and water dredges, air bags, surface and underwater cutting and burning techniques, surface and underwater welding, surface and underwater rigging, Inspection, construction and shipping is all covered within the 4 week programme.

Diving from a cage, surface umbilical management systems (SUMS), surface decompression diving and chamber operation will also be practiced extensively during CDT's Surface Supplied programme.

### HSE Offshore Top-Up:

The Surface Supplied Top-Up qualification is required by divers working within the Offshore Oil & Gas Industry and the Renewables Energy Sector.

CDT's Wet Bell system was only recently retired from North Sea Use. It's Launch and Recovery System (LARS) is fully Lloyds Compliant and could be mobilised onto the back deck of any Offshore Dive Support Vessel (DSV) tomorrow.

CDT Offshore Top Up students will not only master the techniques of diving mid water

in hot water suits from a wet bell, but will also carry out pre and post dive bell checks, drive the LARS and undertake relevant tools and task training.

The hat mounted cameras, lights, helmets "jump jackets" and "Round Robin" communications mirror systems currently in use Offshore, and are utilised throughout the course

Flange work, weld toe grinding, anode removal mid water, UT and CP surveys are all tasks commonly undertaken by the Offshore Air Diver, hence they are covered in theory and in practice at CDT

### In Summary:

All CDT programmes were created by personnel currently employed Inshore and Offshore. Each course will be conducted by a training team that still works in industry, ensuring the accuracy of information presented, relevance of skills taught and safety operation of the dive site.

For more information please visit [www.commercialdivertraining.co.uk](http://www.commercialdivertraining.co.uk)





# KBA NEW DIVE TECHNICIAN COURSE

KBA Training Centre has formulated a new competency diving training to develop the all-round competence for dive technicians

KBA Training Centre (KBAT) is pleased to announce a new diving training – Dive Technician Course that aims to develop the all-round competence of the dive technician in support of the diving system maintenance and equipment. The course will be available in Singapore and Aberdeen, Scotland.

Competent and well-trained technicians are essential for safe offshore/inshore diving operations. Equipment used to support and conduct diving operations requires technicians for its installation, maintenance, inspection, testing and repair. The correct function or maintenance of the equipment is essential to the well-being of the divers and other members of the dive team. This course encompasses the knowledge and skills required for technicians to competently perform daily operational tasks.

A total of three modules can be completed in a three-week period or in blocks of one week depending on delegate's availability. This course is specially designed for the experienced mechanical / electrical or hydraulic technician or anyone who has completed formal technical training in these areas and wishes to establish a career path as a dive technician in the commercial diving industry.

Note: New entrants to the industry should be treated as trainees until deemed competent to work unsupervised. Once a trainee has gained adequate experience and training and

has demonstrated competence in the relevant equipment and operations, the employer may promote the individual to the position of 'dive technician'.

"After consultation with our clients on what would constitute a comprehensive and worthwhile training course for dive technicians that has the necessary flexibility to accommodate difficult schedules, KBAT has formulated a syllabus which breaks down into three modules. The course covers 'soft skills' knowledge and understanding specifically with respect to IMCA 'Dive Technician Competence and Training, IMCA D001 Rev 2' as well as documentation for ongoing and management of change process and occurrence. The training goes on to develop 'hard skills' practical training including working at height, oxygen clean systems, high pressure regulator service, cylinder inspections, KMB DSI Helmet technician training and more. We firmly believe that this will be a very popular programme, where the diving industry gets what it has been seeking for some time" commented Mr. Darren Brunton, Managing Director of KBAT.

Delegates, who have attended and successfully completed each module, will be awarded with individual certification as they progress through the course. Upon completion and passed all the modules, delegates will be awarded with KBAT Dive Technician Competence certificate which outlines all the modules completed.

For further information regarding course fees, scheduled dates and in-company package, please contact KBAT at Tel: +65 6542 4984, [divingadmin@kbassociates.org](mailto:divingadmin@kbassociates.org) or visit our website at [www.kbatraining.org](http://www.kbatraining.org)



# THE SCOURGE OF SCUBA!

Mark Butler,  
Training Dept.

CDML Commercial diver training.

**"B**an SCUBA completely I say!" said the committee member at a recent review panel of commercial diving operations safety requirements, by the Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards. "It's unsafe and most of the accidents in commercial diving involve SCUBA. I remember being quite startled, at such a visceral outburst and since that meeting I have come across other articles that seem to follow the same trend. This influx of negative press caused more than a little consternation because not only had I completed a great deal of safe, productive underwater time using SCUBA in my early career, but also taught working SCUBA as part of HSE UK sanctioned commercial diving courses comprising the oversight of what must be thousands of task based excursions using SCUBA.

At CDML we teach, as part of the national commercial diver training standard, risk assessment the same as any well formulated course,, perhaps it was time for me to practice a little more than preach and re-risk assess the big picture? I had to consider the possibility that maybe an attitude adjustment was in order, or that perhaps my perspective was a little behind the times, so I decided to do some research and take a fresh look at the subject.

No responsible diving educator would contest the generally accepted stance, by most organisations worldwide, that SCUBA has severe limitations and as such has not been found acceptable for use in the offshore oil industry. The fact that SCUBA is not appropriate for heavy work, work with power tools, welding, crane lifts and so on are now a matter of established industry best practice for the leading stake holders worldwide. Commercial SCUBA or Occupational SCUBA (or whatever the training/legislative body chooses to term it) is taught by the major stakeholders in the diving industry. That is to say that training is not only available but mandatory in many countries when performing a task or work using SCUBA equipment including UK, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Denmark, France, at IDSA recognised schools, and even right here in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago which is a comparative "backwater. These industry driven training programmes teach the limitations of the equipment along with the techniques and industry best practices based on years of practical application. "So," I hear you say, "If training authorities know the limitations of SCUBA and the end user and the Diver knows the limitations of SCUBA, why is there

a problem? Well, I would say that the answer to this is three fold. An Important part of the equation that is missing is that the contractor may not be educated in not only the limitations of SCUBA but also the unique challenges of their specific job requirement. Secondly, in many countries there isn't effective policing of working practice i.e. even if standards are legislated; if they go unenforced then they literally aren't worth the paper that they are written on. Finally, is the lack of APPROPRIATE training. I stress appropriate because in many parts of the world, due to the enormous popularity SCUBA enjoys within the recreational market, no distinction is made between divers trained for pleasure or recreational instructors and divers trained for commercial work. Recreational divers are often employed to perform a task due to contractor ignorance(or cheapness), especially in developing countries. This happens despite the fact that the major recreational organizations stress, as part of their remit, that none of their training is applicable to commercial work. A recreationally trained diver may not only be ill equipped in the literal sense but invariably they will be ill equipped as far as knowledge of safety protocols, for a particular task or industry agreed limitations on what can be asked of him/her using SCUBA and so on. Much of the reported incidents

best practice coupled with care in application are the keys to diver safety in ANY equipment.

Some tasks are undoubtedly better carried out by divers using SCUBA within its limitations; broad area searches in shallow water, some aspects of hull cleaning, the gathering of specimens or aquacultures to name but a few. In my opinion, other tasks are also more safely done in properly applied SCUBA - an example of which would be inshore pipeline/cable inspection in shallow water. The alternative, surface supplied diving, would mean that the inspection could not be carried out without live boating (a no, no) or by recovering the diver and relocating the vessel every 500 or so feet.



involving SCUBA have included recreational trained divers which confuses already unwieldy statistics.

SCUBA, whether we like it or not, will never truly go away from commercial work for the simple reasons that it is supremely portable, available almost everywhere and cost effective for a great many tasks. While, as educators we must promote the culture of safety we should accept that the reality of the working world is a cost/safety balance. Better training, better legislation and better enforcement of industry

## *A typical course group*

Much of the bad press that SCUBA receives is because of lack of definition of the parameters of which SCUBA can perform. We need to define SCUBA, and define 'commercial' work. In the commercial arena and at least to me SCUBA means Task

*Continued Page 19*

## New generation equipments



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### FEATURES

- CCD:** 1/3 Sony Super Had EXview III 960H and digital video processor inside with automatic correction of images.
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- Total pixels:** 1020H x 596V 610000 Pixels
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- Omnidirectional Brackets**
- SPOTLIGHT:**
- LED:** 6W 6000°Kelvin- **Intensity:** 1288 Lum
- Angle:** 120° in air - **Absorption:** 350 Ma
- Power:** 11-15 VDC - Low heat dissipation

From page 17



**Pre-Dive checks prior to a diver ready for the water using Aga with communications for a survey task.**

trained divers, equipment checklists, relatively short forays, diving tethered, properly marked at the surface with positive communications, relatively shallow (less than 30 meters generally) light work, no power tools or cutting or burning and adequate manning levels for appropriately trained standby divers and surface support.

We are currently looking at more than half a century since the inception of SCUBA, We are now able to equip our divers with through-water communications, completely redundant reserve air supply, full face masks, better monitoring of compressed breathing air quality and better legislation and protection for those working with the equipment. If

anything, SCUBA is far safer now than it has ever been. Incidents and statistics from the 60s and 70s do not necessarily provide an accurate reality of current events in light of these advancements if ever they did.

In countries that are slow to pass legislation or at best don't enforce it, we have a responsibility to not only promote and encourage the development and maintenance of standards within our local governmental authorities, (I'm speaking from the perspective of a developing country here) but also a responsibility to educate the customer.

Diver safety of course, must continue to be priority, in training or in the field. What I have learned and experienced, I believe definitely affords an alternative slant that not only is SCUBA NOT redundant in the commercial arena, but it continues to propagate which means we need to continue to promote appropriate training rather than dismiss it, which after all, would be "throwing the baby out with the bath water".

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Our systems come complete with Design Appraisal Documents (DAD's) which cover the Frame, Bell, Basket, Clump-weight and Winches. Every change/improvement to the system which could influence its construction is re-calculated by our engineering department and the results are handed over to Lloyd's Register of Shipping (Lloyd's) for final evaluation and certification. (Other notified body certification possible as well.)
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**Design:** Lloyds Register Rules for Offshore lifting

**Certification:** IMCA DO23 Design & IMCA DO18

**Primary Basket / Cage Cylinders:**  
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**Weight:** 6500kg

**HPU Electrical Requirements:**  
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**Oil Capacity:** 3 x 150 Litre (Triple Tank)

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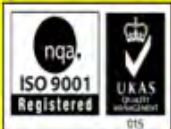
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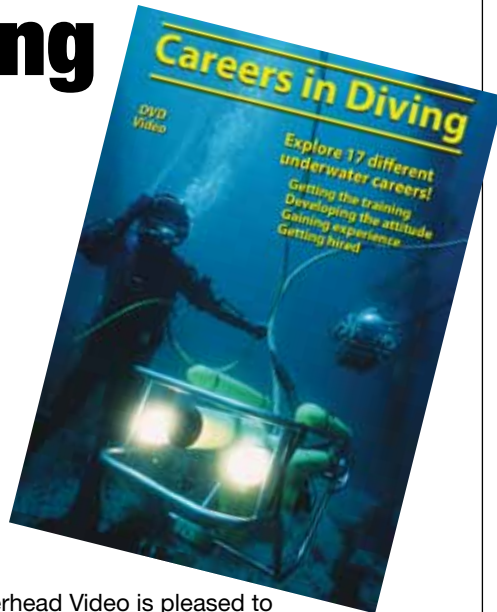
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# New DVD Video on Careers in Diving



**H**ammerhead Video is pleased to announce the release of their latest DVD video entitled, *Careers in Diving*. More than a year in the making, with segments filmed in California, Washington, and Little Cayman, the program

offers a look into the careers of 17 different people who all work in careers where diving is central to their jobs.

If you love the ocean, being outdoors, traveling, and meeting interesting people, then a career in diving might just be for you! Through the use of interviews, photographs, and on-the-job footage, the film explores what it's like to work in varying underwater careers. You'll also hear the positive and negative aspects of each job, although unanimously, each person interviewed is enthusiastic about what they do. This is an ideal program for any young person considering a marine oriented career.

*Careers in Diving* was written, directed and filmed by Steven M. Barsky, a full-time professional in the diving field, who has worked as a commercial diver, underwater photographer, diving author, and diving consultant. The film was produced by Kristine Barsky, a professional marine biologist who was worked on the research and management of several different marine species in California.

The run time for the program 125 minutes. The disk also includes several bonus features including deleted scenes as well director and producer bios. The program is delivered as a Standard Definition 16X9 DVD video. ISBN 978-0-9740923-7-9,

You can see a preview of the video and order the DVD directly from Hammerhead Video at [www.hammerheadpress.com](http://www.hammerheadpress.com). The price is \$13.95. You can also order over the phone at 805-985-4644. Dealer inquiries are invited.

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# PART 2 CAVIT CLEANER

## UNDERWATER CAVITATION CLEANING TECHNOLOGY

**PART 2: Part 1 may be  
found in Issue 23**

MARCO MONTANARI

– R & D Test Diver

### CASE STUDY

In early 2013, a pipe-laying ship of over 300 meters was set to sail from the Mediterranean to Australian waters. The Australian authorities demanded that the vessel's hull be cleaned and rid of its fouling before entering its waters, to avoid bio-contamination. The final cleaning was conducted by NOS DiveServices in Italy, using Cavitcleaner systems. The result was a huge saving for the ship's owners in time and money vs dry-docking, and a vessel that was certified free from biological growth by the Australian authorities.

### PRODUCT LINE



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#### HOT ROAD DIESEL

is driven by a powerful and reliable Yanmar 8kw diesel engine. Preferred by professional divers for its reliability, power, fuel economy and convenience where there is no ready access to a source of electricity. This model can also power two Cavitcleaner pistols simultaneously.





*Cleaning a propeller with CavitCleaner*

## NEW PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

Prototype Cavitcleaner MaxiBeam

Currently under development and scheduled to launch in early 2014 is the new Cavitcleaner MaxiBeam, a complementary accessory to the standard cavitation pistol, it will allow users to clean a larger area and is ideally suited to flat surfaces such as hulls.

Beyond this, the Cavitcleaner family is set to grow, with several other cavitation tools and accessories under development.

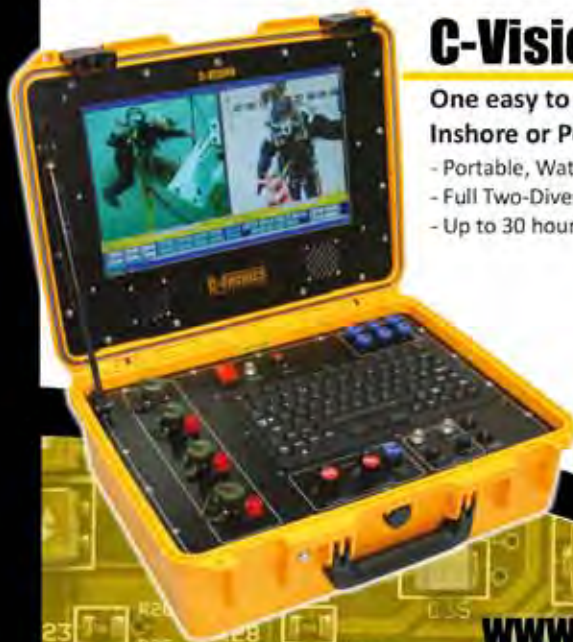
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**Inland/Onshore diving • Ship Husbandry**

# THE INTERNATIONAL DIVING SCHOOLS (IDSA) LIST OF MEMBERS

## FULL MEMBERS: DIVER TRAINING

Centre de Formations pour Petites et Moyennes Entreprises (CFPME)  
The Royal Danish Navy Diving School  
Luksia Sukellusala  
Ecole Nationale des Scaphandriers (ENS)  
Irish Navy Diving School  
CEDIFOP  
Centre Méditerranéen de Plongée Professionnelle (CMPPP)  
Netherlands Diving Centre (NDC)  
Norwegian Commercial Diving School, Oslo (NYD)  
Oceanos Escuela de Buceo  
Swedish Armed Forces Diving and Naval Medicine Centre  
Commercial Diving School of Gothenburg  
The Ocean Corporation

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Finland  
France  
Ireland  
Italy  
  
Morocco  
Netherlands  
  
Norway  
Spain  
  
Sweden  
Sweden  
U.S.A.

Diver Ltd.  
Dolphin Dive Academy  
YAK Diving Academy  
Darya Koosh Marine Co.  
Israeli Professional Diving Academy  
In-Out Security Service  
IDEA Contracting  
Regional Centre for Underwater Demolition (RCUD)  
Academy Marocaine des Science et Technology Maritimes (ASMTM)  
Mieka Dive Training Institute Ltd  
Voronezh Diving School  
Forespro  
PROfessional Diving Services  
Caribbean Diving & Marine Ltd  
Dolphin Diving Services  
London Diving Chamber  
Divers Institute of Technology (DIT)  
International Diving Institute  
Santa Barbara City College

Hungary  
India  
India  
Iran  
Israel  
Italy  
Kuwait  
  
Montenegro  
  
Morocco  
Nigeria  
Russia  
Spain  
Switzerland  
Trinidad  
UAE  
UK  
USA  
USA  
USA

## FULL MEMBERS: SPECIALIST TRAINING

KB Associates  
Interdive Services Ltd.  
The National Hyperbaric Centre

Singapore  
UK  
UK

## INDUSTRIAL MEMBERS

Palumbarus Diving Works  
Alpe SUB Srl  
Drafinsub S.R.L.  
Cavit Cleaner by MAC Division Ltd  
IHC Hytech BV  
Pommec BV T.D.E.  
Norwegian Association of Underwater Entrepreneurs (NBU)  
Svensk Sjoentreprenad  
C-Tecnic

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Italy  
Italy  
Malta  
Netherlands  
Netherlands  
  
Norway  
Sweden  
U.K.

## AFFILIATE MEMBERS

Aqua Dream  
NAVFCO Military Diving School  
Arena Sub Srl  
Eprons Ltd  
Harbour Dive Services  
Nautiek  
Bergen University College  
BPN Explorer  
Aqua Mont Service  
Composite-Beat Engel  
Speciality Welds  
University of Plymouth  
Underwater Centre  
Searchwise Ltd  
Minnesota Commercial Diver Training Center

Cyprus  
France  
Italy  
Latvia  
Malta  
Netherlands  
Norway  
Poland  
Serbia  
Switzerland  
UK  
UK  
UK  
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USA

## ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

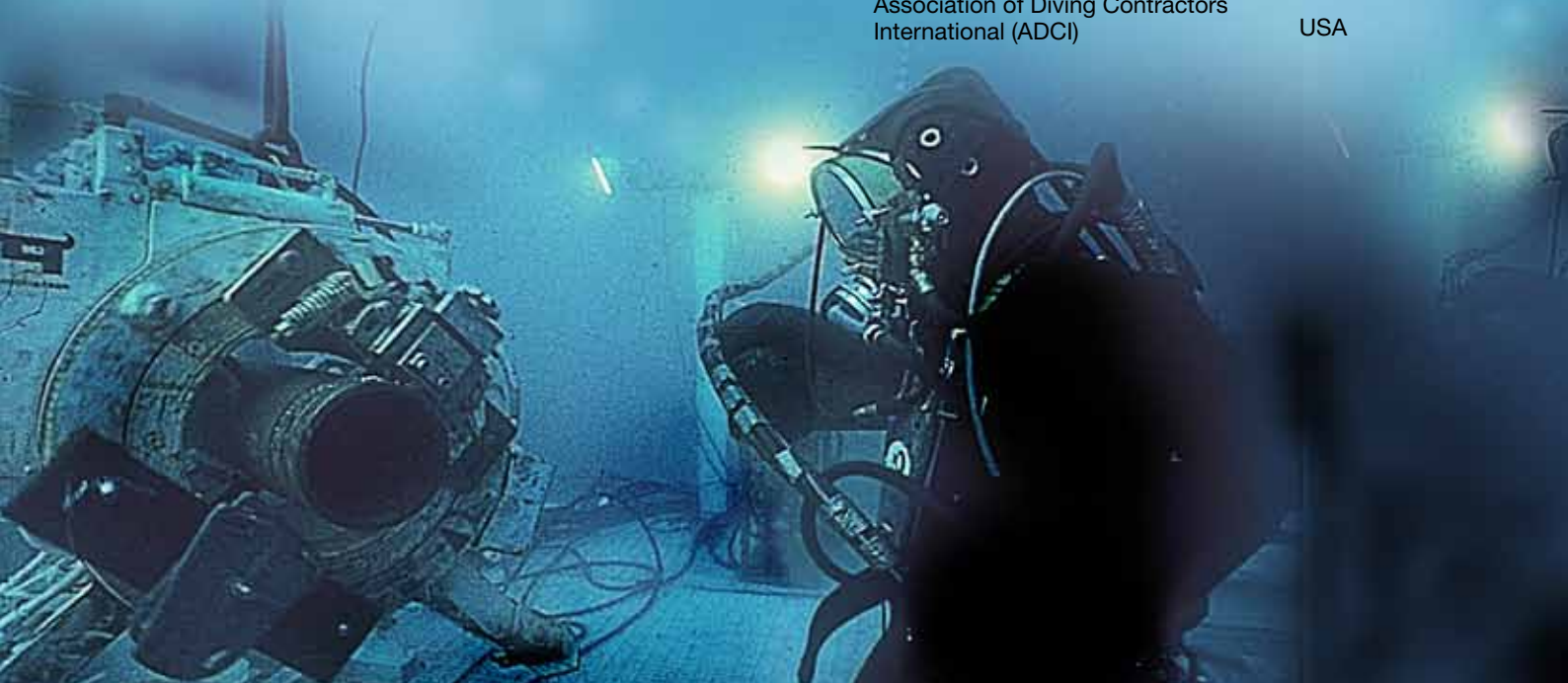
University of Southern Denmark  
Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT)  
Egyptian International Diving School (EIDS)  
The National Institute of Commercial Diving (NICD)  
Universal Marine Institute (UMI)  
Faroe Dive  
Institut National de Plongee Professionnelle (INPP)

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Egypt  
Egypt  
  
Egypt  
Egypt  
Faroe Islands  
  
France

## RECIPROCAL MEMBERS

Alliance of Russian Diving Schools  
Association of Diving Contractors (ADC UK)  
Association of Commercial Diving Educators (ACDE)  
Association of Diving Contractors International (ADCI)

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USA





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