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Front Cover photograph by Mike Norriss

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

## Pear Members

It is pleasing to report that after several years of relentless lobbying by Manos Kouvakis – Director of the Full Member School CEDIFOP, Sicily that the new Italian Regulations in the pipeline are based on the IDSA standards– Congratulations to Manos and his team.

Changes are being made back at IDSA's Head office in the Netherlands. Over the years the main industry related diving organisations have become centralised in the National Dive Centre, in the city of Delft, and as underwater intervention has become more sophisticated and regulated, with it goes the need for more office space. Accordingly, I have been able to obtain authority to move from our present office building to a larger one not too far away in the city. This may have caused some disruption to the administration in the latter part of March and early April, but I hope members were not too inconvenienced.

Apart from the current offices used by the Diving Contractors Association, for the control and issue of diving related certification, and other diving activities, there willbe a separate and independent 'Desk' for IDSA. As I think some members already know Alan Bax is winding down his present commitments and they are being taken up gradually by the IDSA 'Desk' which will be under the supervision of Carin Bot our present Secretary, the majority of the transfer will be complete by the Annual meeting but all being well Alan hopes to stay in touch as Editor of 'IDSA News'

Finally, may I pass on his apologies for the very late publication of this issue, health, computor failure and other matters have triggered the delay, and it is hoped they will not reoccur.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the annual meeting in Oslo, (September 16 to 19)



Leo Lagarde



IDSA Chairman Leo LaGarde presenting Manos Kouvakis with CEDIFOP's first annual membership certificate in 2009