



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL SEA SYSTEMS COMMAND
WASHINGTON, DC 20362-5101

IN REPLY REFER TO

NAVSEAINST 3151.1
OPR OOC4
22 Dec 1987

NAVSEA INSTRUCTION 3151.1

From: Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command

Subj: DIVING AND MANNED HYPERBARIC SYSTEM SAFETY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 3150.27 Navy Diving Program
(b) Diving and Manned Hyperbaric System Safety Certification Manual NAVSEA SS521-AA-MAN-010

1. Purpose. To establish policy and procedures for system certification of diving and manned hyperbaric systems, and to assign responsibility for administration of the subject program.

2. Cancelation. NAVMATINST 9290.1 of 2 August 1976 and NAVMAT P-9290, June 1976 System Certification Procedures and Criteria Manual for Deep Submergence Systems.

3. Background. The Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) by reference (a) requires safety certification of all Navy diving and manned hyperbaric systems, and has established policy for the subject program. The Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEASYS COM) has been designated the lead Systems Command for issuance of implementing instructions, and procedural guidance for the subject program. Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command (COMNAVSEASYS COM) is responsible for safety certification of shipboard and portable systems and Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (COMNAVFACE COM) is responsible for safety certification of shore-based systems.

4. Definitions

(a) Diving. Any underwater activity or related manned hyperbaric facility operation in which personnel are subjected to elevated ambient pressure.

(b) System Safety Certification. The procedure for independent technical review, survey, test, and approval to ensure the material and procedural adequacy of diving equipment or systems to safely perform within specified operational limits.

(c) System Certification Authority (SCA). The position in Naval Sea Systems Command or Naval Facilities Engineering Command delegated authority for the execution of the U. S. Navy Diving and Manned Hyperbaric System Safety Certification Program.

22 Dec 87

(d) Sponsor. The command or organization that makes application for system certification or recertification of a diving system. For a system being developed, the sponsor will normally be that organization tasked with development of the capability provided by the system. For existing systems, the sponsor will normally be that element within the organizational chain responsible for readiness and deployment of the specific system.

(e) Departure from Specification. The lack of compliance with any authoritative technical document, plan, drawing, work procedure, maintenance procedure, etc. Departures from specifications shall be handled in accordance with directives issued by the responsible force commander or, in the absence of such directives, by COMNAVSEASYS COM or COMNAVFACECOM as appropriate.

(f) Waiver. Authorization to depart from established operating or safety procedures, to use diving equipment which is not currently certified or Authorized for Navy Use (ANU), to exceed specified operational limits, or to deviate from established physical or psychological standards, and personnel qualifications for divers. Only CNO Submarine Warfare (OP-02) can approve a request for a waiver.

(g) Naval Personnel. For purposes of this instruction, naval personnel are defined as any active or reserve military person or civilian employee of the Department of the Navy who has been officially qualified by virtue of successfully completing an approved Navy diving training curriculum to be employed as a diver.

5. Exception. This instruction does not apply to manned or unmanned operation of pressurized sonar domes or their support systems. For purposes of this instruction, sonar domes are not considered as manned hyperbaric chambers.

6. Policy. The objective of the Diving and Manned Hyperbaric System Safety Certification Program is to provide maximum assurance that all diving and hyperbaric systems which are used by naval personnel are materially and procedurally adequate to safely carry out specified operations. It is emphasized that the objective of the program is safety. Reference (b) provides policy, procedures and criteria for the execution of this program. Compliance with reference (b) is mandatory.

22 Dec 87

7. Action

(a) Fleet, type, group and squadron commanders, commanding officers, officers in charge, or program managers of commands or activities which support, operate or develop diving and manned hyperbaric systems are responsible for insuring that systems not covered by ANU are certified in accordance with the procedures established by this instruction prior to operational use, or are otherwise granted a waiver by CNO.

(b) Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command shall:

(1) Act as lead Systems Command for systems safety certification for diving and manned hyperbaric systems.

(2) Designate a System Certification Authority for all afloat and portable diving and manned hyperbaric systems.

(3) Grant system certification by signing certificates of material and procedural adequacy for systems under the certification cognizance of NAVSEASYSKOM which comply with the criteria of this instruction.

(4) Review and update the administrative and technical criteria of this instruction on a periodic basis.

(c) Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command shall:

(1) Designate a System Certification Authority for fixed shore-based manned hyperbaric facilities and diving systems.

(2) Grant system certification by signing certificates of material and procedural adequacy for systems under the certification cognizance of COMNAVFACENGCOM which comply with the criteria of this instruction.

(3) Collaborate with NAVSEASYSKOM in reviewing and updating the technical criteria of reference (b) on a periodic basis. The objective of the collaborative effort shall be to establish criteria which, to the maximum practical limit, will be uniform for all diving and manned hyperbaric systems. Ensure that criteria and procedures unique to fixed shore based hyperbaric facilities are correct.



C. A. BARTHOLOMEW
Director of Ocean Engineering
Supervisor of Salvage and Diving, USN

Distribution: (see page 4)

Distribution:

SNDL 21A1	CINCLANTFLT		
21A2	CINCPACFLT		
21A3	CINCUSNAVEUR		
22A2	COMTHIRDFLT		
22A2	COMSEVENTHFLT		
24D1	COMNAVSURFLANT		
24D2	COMNAVSURFPAC		
24G1	COMSUBLANT	Copy to:	
24G2	COMSUBPAC	SEA 92Q (5)	OOC (20)
26D1	SDVTEAMLANT	931 (5)	09B11 (5)
26D1	SEALTEAMLANT		09B38 (50)
26D2	SEALTEAMLANT	PMS395 (10)	
26D2	SDVTEAMPAC		
26D2	SEALTEAMPAC		
26F3	OPTEVFOR		
26U	READSUPPGRU		
26Z	SIMA		
26DD	MOBDIVSALU		
26GG	EODGRU		
26GG	EODGRU, DET		
26QQ	NAVSPECWARGRU, Unit		
26VV2	COMSUBPACREP		
26VV	COMSUBGRUREP	FKM22 NAVPUBFORMCEN (500)	
26WW	SUBRESUNIT		
28E2	COMSURFRON	FH7	NAVMEDRSCHINSTITUTE
28J	COMSERVGRU	FKA1C	COMNAVFACENGCOM
28J1	COMSERVRON	FKQ6B	NAVCOASTSYSCEN
28K	COMSUBGRU	FKQ6C	NAVOCEANSYSCEN
28K	COMSUBBRON	FKQ6F	NAVSWC
28K2	COMSUBDEVGRU	FKQ6G	NUSC
28K1	COMSUBDEVRON	FKM13	SPCC
32A	AD	FKN1	CHESNAVFACENGCOM and ATLDIV onl.
32S	AR	FKN11	NAVCIVENGLAB
32X	ARS	FKP1E	NAVUSEAWARENGSTA
32DD	AS	FKP4B	NAVEODTEHCEN
32EE	ASR	FKP6D	NAVXDIVINGU
32QQ	ATS	FKP7	NAVSHIPYD
39B	COMCB	FR10	NAVRESCEN
39G	UCT	FT1	CNET
A2A	ONR only	FT5	CNTECHTRA
A3	CNO	FT20	NAVCONSTRACEN Port Hueneme only
A5	BUMED only	FT44	NAVDIVESALVTRACEN
B5	USCG	FT45	NAVSCOLEOD
		FT88	EDOSCOL
FA10	SUBASELANT		
FB13	SUBASEPAC		
FB30	NAVSHIPREPFAC		
FB45	TRIREFFAC		
FF5	NAVSAFECEN		

Stocked:
Commanding Officer
Naval Publications and Forms Center
5801 Tabor Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19120-5099

4