



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL SEA SYSTEMS COMMAND
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IN REPLY TO

NAVSEAINST 3150.1A
Ser 00C/0008
6 Apr 07

NAVSEA INSTRUCTION 3150.1A

From: Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command

Subj: NAVY DIVING PROGRAM

- Ref:
- (a) OPNAVINST 3150.27 Series, Navy Diving Program
 - (b) NAVSEA 0910-LP708-8000, U.S. Navy Diving Manual
 - (c) NAVSEA ltr 10560 Ser 00C32/3062 of 26 Jul 2004, Diving Equipment Authorized for Navy Use, Letter of Promulgation
 - (d) NAVSEAINST 5040.1D Command Performance Inspections
 - (e) COMUSFLTFORCOMINST 3501.1 Series, Diving Operational Readiness Assessment
 - (f) NAVSEA SS521-AA-MAN-010, U.S. Navy Diving and Manned Hyperbaric Systems Safety Certification Manual
 - (g) NAVSEANOTE 5400 Ser 05CT/001 of 09 January 2004 NAVSEA Warranted Technical Authorities
 - (h) NAVSEAINST 4740.6 Series, Ship Salvage Officer Personnel
 - (i) OPNAVINST 5102.1 Series/MCO P5102.1 Series Navy & Marine Corps Mishap and Safety Investigation Reporting and Record Keeping Manual
 - (j) NAVSEAINST 5450.27 Series, Mission, Functions, Tasks, and Tasking of Navy Experimental Diving Unit

1. Purpose. To establish policy and assign responsibilities within the Naval Sea Systems Command and subordinate field activities for that portion of the Navy Diving Program assigned by reference (a) to the Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command. This instruction is a major revision and should be read in its entirety.

2. Cancellation. NAVSEAINST 3150.1 of 28 Jan 1988.

3. Scope. This instruction applies to all diving conducted under the cognizance of the Naval Sea Systems Command.

4. Background. Diving requirements within the Naval Sea Systems Command span the entire spectrum of Navy diving, including conventional diving in shipyards, commercial diving under contract, and experimental diving at the Navy Experimental

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Diving Unit. Navy Diving Program policy is promulgated for the Navy and other supported DoD agencies via reference (a).

5. Policy

a. Except as indicated below, all diving conducted under the cognizance of the Naval Sea Systems Command will comply with references (a) and (b). Diving operations will be conducted by currently qualified U.S. Military divers, as defined in reference (a), using Certified or Authorized for Navy Use (ANU) diving equipment, systems and procedures.

b. Commercial divers under contract to the Navy are not governed by Navy diving regulations. Such diving operations shall comply with best accepted commercial safe diving practices and should be so stated on all purchase orders. Commercial divers may not participate on Navy diving stations, nor may they use U.S. Navy diving equipment or diving breathing mediums. Exceptions to this policy require prior approval from CNO (N873) via NAVSEA (00C). NAVSEA (00C) assigned U.S. Military divers will be allowed to dive with prime contractors while conducting quality assurance checks of work performed using Certified or Authorized for Navy Use (ANU) diving equipment, systems and procedures.

c. Per reference (a), Navy Experimental Diving Unit (NEDU), with permission from NAVSEA (00C), may conduct manned dives of uncertified or non-ANU equipment in the performance of diving-related Research, Development, Testing and Evaluation (RDT&E).

d. Naval Surface Warfare Center, Panama City may conduct RDT&E of non-life support diving equipment and tools, as defined per reference (c).

e. Diving Operational Readiness Assessments (DORAs) will be conducted as part of the NAVSEA Command Performance Inspection (CPI) governed by reference (d) on NAVSEA field activities. DORAs will be conducted per reference (e).

f. Due to the triennial schedule of NAVSEA CPIs, capable NAVSEA Diving Commands should complete their Naval Safety Center Diving Safety Surveys 16 to 20 months prior to the CPI.

g. Diver Life Support Systems will be certified in accordance with references (a) and (f).

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6. Action

a. The Director of Ocean Engineering, Supervisor of Salvage and Diving (SEA 00C) will:

(1) Maintain and support the position of U.S. Navy Supervisor of Diving within his organization.

(2) Maintain and support the position of System Certification Authority for shipboard and portable manned diving and hyperbaric systems within his organization.

(3) Initiate and administer contracts for commercial diving services to support ship husbandry, hull cleaning, and search and salvage operations as required.

(4) As technical warrant holder for diving and salvage, provide overall management direction and policy guidance for diving programs in Naval Sea Systems Command in accordance with reference (g).

(5) Serve as the technical warrant holder for salvage and diving. Provide technical direction to Navy Salvage and Diving activities.

(6) Actively monitors the U.S. Navy Diver manning strength and makes recommendations to Fleet Forces Command via subordinate claimants on the overall health of the Navy Diver (ND) rate.

b. The U.S. Navy Supervisor of Diving (NAVSEA 00C3B) will:

(1) Serve as the technical authority and manager/direct the Navy Diving Program.

(2) Act as the principal technical advisor and assistant to SEA 00C for diving technical matters.

(3) In response to validated operational requirements, provide acquisition management, Integrated Logistic Support and Life Cycle Management for diver life-support equipment, portable and shipboard hyperbaric facilities; surface supported diving systems, saturation diving systems, and associated diver tools and equipment for use by the Navy and Marine Corps.

(4) Provide technical guidance to program managers at the SYSCOM level for acquisition programs related to diver

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support equipment for the SEAL, Explosive Ordnance Disposal, Underwater Construction Team, and other specialized diving communities. Coordinate with the program managers to remain aware of all development programs for diver support equipment to ensure that RDT&E programs consider the similar operational requirements of all diving communities, thereby avoiding a duplication of effort.

(5) Provide technical support to the CNO and other parties as directed in the development of diving program policy including advice on diver selection, training and qualifications. This includes active monitoring of the U.S. Navy Diver manning strength and making recommendations to SUPSALV on the overall health of the Navy Diver rate.

(6) Establish Navy diving practices and procedures in reference (b) and other publications as necessary to provide accurate and consistent guidance to the fleet. Implement a program for a continuing review of such guidance to ensure that it is maintained current and up to date.

(7) Establish and direct programs necessary to maintain and/or revise the Navy decompression and treatment tables.

(8) Establish and publish operating and emergency procedures for diving and hyperbaric systems resulting from NAVSEA acquisition programs. Review and approve such procedures submitted from Fleet activities in conjunction with the system certification program.

(9) Serve as the U.S. Project Officer to U.S. Navy International Exchange Agreements and Data Exchange Agreements for diving related matters with allied navies.

(10) Provide technical services and support to U.S. military, governmental and civilian activities on matters pertaining to diving.

(11) Establish and administer programs for Test and Evaluation (T&E) of commercially available equipment leading to ANU designation under the guidelines of reference (c). Maintain and update the ANU listing and retain documentation supporting approval.

(12) Administer the Diver's Breathing Air Sampling Program for all Naval Activities maintaining an air diving capability.

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(13) Coordinate with other SYSCOMS, and provide technical recommendations to the CNO (N873) on all requests for waivers of Navy Diving Program procedures and requirements.

(14) Establish and maintain a repository of technical information pertinent to diving.

(15) Conduct DORAs per reference (e) as part of the periodic Command Performance Inspections of all NAVSEA field activities with diving programs.

(16) Provide technical, management, and funding support for the Navy Experimental Diving Unit.

(17) Maintain liaison with the Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery on the biomedical and psychological aspects of diving.

(18) Provide technical guidance as required, to assist in the correction of safety deficiencies discovered at fleet units and shore commands during DORAs and safety surveys through technical guidance as required.

(19) Coordinate with the Naval Safety Center in establishing comprehensive compliance-based inspection guidelines for all aspects of Navy diving for use during safety surveys and DORAs. Provide technical guidance to the Naval Safety Center and periodically review the guidance to ensure that it remains current.

c. The System Certification Authority for shipboard and portable manned diving and hyperbaric systems (NAVSEA 00C4) will:

(1) Per reference (a), assume the lead SYSCOM responsibilities in coordinating with the System Certification Authority at the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFACENGCOM Code OFP) in establishing system certification criteria. To the greatest extent possible, the criteria will be the same for shipboard, portable, and shore-based diving and hyperbaric systems.

(2) Execute the Diving and Hyperbaric Systems Safety Certification Program for diver-worn and portable systems under the guidelines of reference (f).

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(3) Conduct annual review and update of reference (f).

d. Commanding Officers of NAVSEA field activities with a diving locker assigned will:

(1) Comply with references (a) through (c) in the conduct of all diving operations.

(2) Comply with reference (h) for Ship Salvage Officer Personnel assigned to their command.

(3) Ensure that a Navy Safety Center Diving Safety Survey occurs not less than 16 months and not more than 20 months prior to a DORA conducted during NAVSEA Inspector General CPI. CPIs are scheduled to occur on a 36-month periodicity for all NAVSEA field activities.

(4) Use reference (e) as guidance in preparation for DORA as part of the triennial CPI.

(5) Ensure that all maintenance of Diver Life Support System (DLSS) is accomplished in accordance with established PMS. Accomplishment of preventive maintenance is mandatory for continuation of DLSS system certification. DLSS Re-Entry Control (REC) will also be maintained in accordance with reference (f).

(6) Complying with mishap and safety investigation reporting and record keeping requirements of reference (i).

e. The Commanding Officer, Navy Experimental Diving Unit will:

(1) Perform all assigned mission tasks and directives per reference (j).

(2) Act as technical agent, In-service Engineering Agent, and test and evaluation agent of Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command in matters involving diving and hyperbaric operations as tasked by 00C3.

(3) Maintain a 24-hour phone watch for providing technical consultation, medical consultation and other assistance as may be required by Fleet or other diving activities.

(4) Liaison with Naval Safety Center and Fleet units to review military diving mishaps and near misses reported via Web Enabled Safety System (WESS) or other methods, and ensure correctness and accuracy of final disposition regarding cause of Mishap or Hazrep (near-miss). Maintain a database of U.S. military diving decompression sickness and air embolism cases.

(5) Contact OOC within 24 hrs in the event of any Class A (death) mishap as defined in reference (i).

(6) Provide support for the Navy Saturation Diving Program in accordance with written guidance from SEA OOC in accordance with CNO sponsor direction, manning and funding levels.



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DISTRIBUTION:

CNO (N873)

All NAVSEA Field Activities

COMDT COGARD

BUMED

NAVDIVSALTRACEN, Panama City, FL

PEO Submarines (PMS 394, PMS 350, PMS 398, PMS 399)

PEO Ships (PMS 325)

PEO Littoral & Mine Warfare