



TOPSIDE



July 2006

The NDP Newsletter for NOAA Diving Supervisors and Divers

Director - David Dinsmore, (206) 526-6705, dave.dinsmore@noaa.gov
 Operations Manager - LTJG Eric Johnson, (206) 526-6460, eric.t.johnson@noaa.gov
 Equipment Manager - Steve Urick, (206) 526-6223, steve.urick@noaa.gov
 NDP Dive Medical Officer - CDR Al Exner, (206) 526-6474, albert.exner@noaa.gov
 SEP Technician - Bill Gordon, (206) 526-6450, bill.j.gordon@noaa.gov
 Chamber Supervisor- Jim Bostick, (206) 526-6450, jim.bostick@noaa.gov
 SEP Technician - Lisa Glover, (206) 526-6446, lisa.glover@noaa.gov
 Budget/Program Analyst - Laurie Barber, (206) 526-6695, laurie.barber@noaa.gov
 Office Automation Secretary - Sharon Choy, (206) 526-6623, Sharon.choy@noaa.gov
 E-fax numbers: Lisa Glover (206)529-2757 Steve Urick (206) 529-2758, and LTJG Eric Johnson (206)529-2759.

Fax - 206-526-6506
 Web Site Address -
<http://www.ndc.noaa.gov>


Mailing Address -
 NOAA Diving Center
 7600 Sand Point Way NE
 Seattle, WA 98115-0070

TRAINING SCHEDULE


All individuals applying for any dive classes offered by the NDC must submit the following items; NOAA Diving Training Request and Authorization form, completed NOAA diving physical, swim test, dive resume, Standardized Equipment Measurement form, and current First-aid/CPR certificates. All forms are available online at: www.ndc.noaa.gov/forms.html. Completed forms can be mailed or faxed to the Diving Center.

Events scheduled through Jan. 2007:

July 10 - 21	Physicians Course	Seattle
Aug. TBD	Tentative WD Refresher	Seattle
Sept.11 - 29	Working Diver	Seattle
Sept.25 - 29	Divemaster	Seattle
Nov. 27 - Dec. 2	DMT	Seattle
Jan. 8 - 19	MPIC	Seattle
Jan. 8 - 26	Working Diver	Key West
Jan. 22 - 26	Divemaster	Key West

Please contact Laurie Barber at 206-526-6695 or via e-mail laurie.barber@noaa.gov with any questions. 

REMINDERS

1. NDC will offer a Working Diver Refresher Class in August if we have the minimum number of participants. Deadline for signing up is July 28.
2. September Class - Still room in both the WD and Divemaster. Deadline for requesting a slot is August 18.
3. TRI air sample test kits will be going out to all units the week of July 10-14. If you need it at a different time please let me know. Those of you that receive these kits, please do the testing ASAP and return to TRI within 10 days. Units that don't return kits promptly will be charged \$800.00/kit.
4. It is not too early to sign up for the DMT and MPIC classes. The class dates for DMT are November 27-December 2. The MPIC class this year will be held January 8-20, 2007. You may still take the DMT in Nov/Dec and then the MPIC in January (if you don't have MPIC or EMT certification). When the individual passes MPIC, they will be awarded the DMT certification. 

NOAA DIVING PROGRAM SAFETY BULLETIN #06-01

In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Oceanic Worldwide of San Leandro, California, is voluntarily recalling Oceanic Versa Pro revision 2A Digital Dive Computers. While operating in the User Selected Digital Gauge Mode, displayed Elapsed Dive Time can be in excess of actual elapsed time.

Oceanic has received a report of two Versa Pro revision 2A units that experienced the offset time displayed while operating in User Selected Digital Gauge Mode. No injuries have been reported.

Oceanic Versa Pro 2A dive Computers subject to the recall are only the revision 2A units which have serial numbers 12000 through 18176 which is located on the side of the module and can be viewed if after the front button is depressed to activate the unit, it is held depressed until the Diagnostic Mode screen completes its countdown and the Serial Number screen appears displaying the module's SN and software firmware revision (r2A). The unit will shut off when released.

Authorized Oceanic dealers sold Versa Pro 2A modules, that were manufactured between March 21, 2003, and February 7, 2005, in wrist and console mount configuration during March 2003 through April 2006.

NOAA divers shall discontinue use of Versa Pro 2A Dive Computers immediately and take them to any Authorized Oceanic Dealer, or return them directly to the factory for an upgrade to Versa Pro revision 2B. To locate an Authorized Oceanic Dealer, or instructions for returns direct to the factory, visit Oceanic's web site at www.OceanicWorldwide.com.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Oceanic Recall Helpline at (888) 854-4960 or locally at (510) 562-0500 between 8 am and 5 pm Monday through Friday, Pacific Time.



2

DIVE SAFETY

Now that all commercial dive computers are approved for use by NOAA divers some points should be considered and accounted for when diving them.

If a dive team has different computers being utilized this must be planned for. Different computers may be calculating bottom times using different algorithms. When this happens the more conservative of the computers is the one that all members of the group must follow.

Another point along these lines is the case where one diver may be using NITROX while the buddy is on air. In that case both divers must set their computers to air so that they have similar calculations and/or they must both dive the NOAA air tables.

Bottom line is to make sure that you communicate with your dive partners and avoid becoming complacent, that is when accidents will happen, so keep safety first and foremost in all your operations.

