



Australian Government

**Assessment Requirements for SISOSCB001
SCUBA dive in open water to a maximum
depth of 18 metres**

Release: 1

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Modification History

Not applicable.

Performance Evidence

Evidence of the ability to complete tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit in the context of the job role, and:

- plan and complete four open water dives each for different parameters
- prior to each dive, and at the water's edge:
 - assemble own diving equipment
 - inspect all equipment for safety and serviceability
 - fit and adjust equipment to self, including appropriate weights, in conjunction with buddy
 - complete a BWRAF (buoyancy, weights, releases, air, final) check in conjunction with buddy
- during each dive, use effective techniques to control:
 - entry and exit
 - descent and ascent
 - underwater swimming
 - buoyancy both underwater and at the surface
 - mouthpiece clearing for both snorkel and regulator
 - exchanges between regulator and snorkel, in-water at the surface
 - swimming at the surface using snorkel; fully geared
 - buddy contact, cooperation and communication, using correct signals for communication
 - navigation of a basic course with an underwater compass
- across all dives, collectively participate in simulations to respond to problematic and emergency situations and:
 - clear partially and fully flooded masks
 - remove and replace mask underwater
 - remove and replace SCUBA system in-water at the surface
 - remove and replace weight system and SCUBA kit in water too deep in which to stand
 - use an alternate air source to provide air to and receive air from a diver, and make controlled air sharing ascents
 - provide buddy assistance for two situations
- after each dive, disassemble SCUBA gear.

Knowledge Evidence

Demonstrated knowledge required to complete the tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit:

- organisational safety and emergency response procedures for diving activities
- factors to consider when planning a dive:
 - dive location
 - objectives
 - abilities of self and buddy
 - depth and duration of dive
 - contingencies
- features of diving environments, particularly those relevant to local conditions, sufficient to understand the impacts on diving activities and locations:
 - water conditions:
 - temperature and thermocline
 - visibility
 - movements, currents, waves, tides
 - density of fresh and salt water
 - topography; bottom and shoreline
 - aquatic life; animals and plants
 - weather conditions
 - hazards and techniques used to safely negotiate these:
 - surface hazards
 - overhead obstructions
 - entanglement and entrapment in natural and constructed features
 - special environmental features, including any cultural and heritage features, minimal impact techniques specific to diving environments, and why these are important to conservation
 - any local regulations specific to diving
- how to use dive computers to
 - determine no-decompression limits for single and repetitive dives
 - properly plan and execute a dive
- features, function and operation of dive computers, and advantages of dive computers over dive tables when planning and completing dives
- the physics of diving; the physical principles of matter and their application to diving activities and hazards:
 - sound
 - light
 - buoyancy
 - pressure and gas laws
 - temperature

- for the following medical problems related to diving, the causes, prevention, symptoms, first aid and treatment:
 - direct effects of pressure during descent, types of squeezes and barotrauma:
 - mask
 - suit
 - ears
 - sinuses
 - lungs
 - teeth
 - direct effects of pressure during ascent:
 - gas expansion – ears, sinuses, lungs, stomach, intestines and teeth
 - lung over pressurization and overexpansion injuries
 - vertigo
 - indirect physiological effects of pressure:
 - decompression illness
 - nitrogen narcosis
 - carbon dioxide excess and relationship to overexertion
 - oxygen toxicity
 - shallow water blackout and relationship to hyperventilation
 - issues related to contaminated air
 - other physiological and psychological problems:
 - drowning and secondary drowning
 - carotid sinus reflex
 - inadequate ventilation (hypoventilation)
 - atmospheric issues – hypothermia, hyperthermia, sunburn
 - bite and sting injuries from aquatic animals and plants
 - issues related to use of medication, drugs and alcohol
 - fatigue and exhaustion
 - stress and panic
 - over confidence
- for the following diving equipment, identifying features, functions, operation and, where relevant, how to fit and adjust for comfort and safety:
 - fins
 - face masks
 - snorkels
 - buoyancy control devices
 - exposure suits, booties and gloves of different grades suited to different conditions
 - weight ballast systems
 - cylinders and valves, cylinder support systems
 - regulators

- submersible pressure gauges
- alternative air sources of different types
- timing devices
- depth gauges
- underwater compasses
- floats and flags
- lights
- emergency equipment carried by dive operators:
 - signalling devices, acoustical and visual
 - first aid kits
 - oxygen kits
- for all of the above equipment, how to inspect for safety and serviceability
- the purpose and importance of pre and post-dive roll calls
- inclusions of personal diving log books and the importance of completing after each dive
- communication protocols used between divers, buddies and activity leaders:
 - hand signals
 - noise signals such as rapping on cylinder
 - use of slates
 - use of signalling devices, acoustical and visual
- dive buddy systems and procedures used to:
 - cross check gear
 - maintain contact and cooperation
 - maintain common safety
- techniques used to:
 - enter and exit the water
 - descend and ascend using safety stops
 - swim underwater and at the surface in diving gear
 - maintain buoyancy both underwater and at the surface
 - use an alternate air source to provide air to and receive air from a diver, and make controlled air sharing ascents
 - rescue self and buddy from problematic and emergency situations.

Assessment Conditions

Skills must be demonstrated in an open water site during daylight hours. Dives can be completed from either a boat or from the shore.

During assessment:

- direct vertical access to the surface must be possible; aquatic plants are not considered an overhead obstruction
- the first two of the four required open water dives must include at least 20 minutes at a depth between 5 and 12 metres

- the last two of the four required open water dives must include at least 20 minutes at a depth between 5 to 18 metres
- no more than three dives can be completed in any one day
- the following resources must be available to replicate industry conditions of operation and also for the purpose of assessing the candidate's ability to identify features and operational use:
 - first aid equipment
 - oxygen equipment
 - communication equipment for emergency response
 - diver flags of a type and size that meet local maritime regulator requirements.

Assessment must ensure use of:

- a diving buddy with whom the candidate can dive
- fins
- masks
- snorkels
- cylinders and valves
- buoyancy control devices with low pressure inflators
- regulators with submersible pressure gauges
- alternative air source
- weight ballast systems
- exposure suits suitable for conditions
- timing devices
- depth gauges
- underwater compasses
- signalling devices, acoustical and visual
- dive computers
- organisational safety and emergency response procedures for diving activities.

Assessors must satisfy the Standards for Registered Training Organisations requirements for assessors, and:

- be an individual who is currently certified and sanctioned by an industry authorised organisation to teach and assess open water diving skills and to authorise the issuance of C-Card certification.

Links

Companion Volume Implementation Guides -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=1ca50016-24d2-4161-a044-d3faa200268b>