



Australian Government

SFIDIVE313A Undertake emergency procedures in diving operations using SCUBA

Release 1

SFIDIVE313A Undertake emergency procedures in diving operations using SCUBA

Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comment
1	SFI11v2	Initial release. Supersedes and is not equivalent to <i>SFIDIVE305B Undertake emergency procedures in diving operations using self-contained underwater breathing apparatus</i>

Unit Descriptor

This unit of competency involves acting as a surface and in-water standby diver, providing assistance in an emergency situation and performing a self-rescue ascent during occupational diving operations using self-contained underwater breathing apparatus (SCUBA).

Licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements may apply to this unit. Therefore it will be necessary to check with the relevant state or territory regulators for current licensing, legislative or regulatory requirements before undertaking this unit.

Application of the Unit

Completion of this and other diving units may lead to further accreditation in occupational diving by industry and/or regulatory authorities. Check with the relevant industry or regulatory body for specific requirements.

All enterprise or workplace procedures and activities are carried out according to **relevant government regulations, licensing and other compliance requirements**, including **occupational health and safety (OHS) guidelines**, and maritime and occupational diver codes of practice and procedures.

Equipment operation, maintenance, repairs and calibrations are undertaken in a safe manner that conforms to manufacturer instructions. Appropriate **personal protective equipment (PPE)** is selected, checked, used and maintained.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

Refer to Unit Descriptor

Pre-Requisites

HLTFA311A Apply first aid

Employability Skills Information

This unit contains employability skills.

Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements describe the essential outcomes of a unit of competency.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where bold italicised text is used, further information is detailed in the required skills and knowledge section and the range statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the evidence guide.
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Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
1. Perform surface standby-diver activities for divers using SCUBA	1.1. Surface standby-diver activities during operations conform to appropriate emergency/rescue procedures according to the equipment used 1.2. A state of readiness to ensure prompt action in the event of an emergency is maintained at all times
2. Perform in-water standby-diver activities using SCUBA	2.1. In-water standby-diver activities conform to appropriate emergency/rescue procedures according to the equipment used 2.2. Communication lines are maintained with the surface team to ensure all necessary rescue action is undertaken
3. Employ correct techniques for emergency situations when using SCUBA	3.1. Assistance is given in the recovery of an unconscious or injured diver from the surface to dry land or the deck of a dive platform in a manner that prevents further injury 3.2. Ascent in an emergency situation is managed by controlling buoyancy, while identifying an emergency situation where shedding weights may be necessary

Required Skills and Knowledge

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

This section describes the skills and knowledge required for this unit.

Required skills

Required skills include:

- applying emergency first aid procedures
- applying emergency/rescue procedures in accordance with the situation
- dressing appropriately for standby-diver duties and maintaining a state of readiness
- free ascending correctly completing proper drills during ascent and on the surface
- giving expired-air resuscitation to a surfaced diver while in the water
- maintaining communication with diver's tender and following instructions
- recovering a diver in distress to the surface
- using a safety line to locate a diver in distress
- literacy skills to:
 - complete 'dive accident medical information' forms
 - follow an emergency action plan
 - keep records
 - read dive tables
 - read diver's first aid literature
 - read regulations and industry guidelines
- numeracy skills to:
 - make calculations involving pressure, volume and temperature relationships
 - use decompression information while underwater

Required knowledge

Required knowledge includes:

- effective methods to handle a range of physical emergencies
- emergencies that may occur during diving operations in the seafood or ornamental/aquarium industry
- free-ascent practices and associated dangers and limitations
- need for and limitations of shedding weights in particular emergency situations
- procedures related to the use of equipment in relation to identified emergencies
- risk of hyperthermia or hypothermia when fully dressed as a standby diver
- suit inflation and buoyancy compensator inflation procedures
- treatment of medical emergencies

Evidence Guide

EVIDENCE GUIDE

The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the performance criteria, required skills and knowledge, range statement and the Assessment Guidelines for the Training Package.

Overview of assessment

Critical aspects for assessment evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit

Assessment must confirm the ability to:

- perform standby-diver duties
- apply emergency/rescue procedures to:
 - conscious diver
 - unconscious diver
- undertake in-water resuscitation
- recover a distressed diver and apply first aid
- free ascend correctly and safely
- communicate and follow instructions

Assessment must confirm knowledge of:

- physical emergency procedures
- treatment of medical emergencies
- hyperthermia and hypothermia
- shedding weights in emergency situations
- inflation procedures and free-ascent practices

Context of and specific resources for assessment

Assessment is to be conducted at the workplace or in a simulated work environment.

Resources may include:

- suitable diving environment
- diving equipment for SCUBA diving operations as listed in the range of variables

Method of assessment

The following assessment methods are suggested:

- observation of practical demonstration
- written or oral short-answer testing
- practical exercises

Guidance information for assessment

This unit may be assessed holistically with other diving units.

Range Statement

RANGE STATEMENT

The range statement relates to the unit of competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. Bold italicised wording, if used in the performance criteria, is detailed below. Essential operating conditions that may be present with training and assessment (depending on the work situation, needs of the candidate, accessibility of the item, and local industry and regional contexts) may also be included.

Relevant government regulations, licensing and other compliance requirements may include:

- business or workplace operations, policies and practices
- maritime and occupational diving operations, and safety at sea
- OHS hazard identification, risk assessment and control

OHS guidelines may include:

- appropriate workplace provision of first aid kits
- codes of practice, regulations and/or guidance notes which may apply in a jurisdiction or industry sector
- enterprise-specific OHS procedures, policies or standards
- hazard and risk assessment of workplace, maintenance activities and control measures
- induction or training of staff in relevant OHS procedures and/or requirements to allow them to carry out their duties in a safe manner
- OHS training register
- safe systems and procedures for outdoor work, including protection from solar radiation, confined space entry and the protection of people in the workplace
- systems and procedures for the safe maintenance of property, machinery and equipment, including hydraulics and exposed moving parts
- the appropriate use, maintenance and storage of PPE

PPE may include:

- buoyancy vest or personal floatation device (PFD)
- personal locator beacon or Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB)
- protective outdoor clothing for tropical conditions

RANGE STATEMENT	
	• sun protection (e.g. sun hat, sunscreen and sunglasses)
Operations may include:	• cleaning and maintaining display tanks • collecting aquatic animals: • abalone • beche-de-mer • broodstock or seedstock • crayfish, lobsters and crabs • ornamental fish, live, rock, corals and other invertebrate • other molluscs • pearls • sea urchins and sponges • seaweed or aquatic plants • collecting dead stock • collecting environmental water samples • eradicating or releasing predators • from a beach • from a jetty • from a vessel • installing, servicing and maintaining ponds, farm environment, cages and associated equipment • retrieving lost tools and equipment • tending aquaculture animals
Equipment may include:	• breathing apparatus: • demand type (e.g. band mask and helmet) • free-flow type • buoyancy compensator • catch bags • communication systems: • topside and diver • power supply • tape recorders and tapes • depth-measuring instruments • diver's clothing • diving watch • gauges • knives

RANGE STATEMENT	
	• main and reserve air supplies • safety harness • shot-line • weights, fins and masks
Emergency may include:	• entanglement • entrapment • injury • malfunctioning equipment • medical • predator
Communication may include:	• hand signals • lifeline signals • slate • voice
Assistance may include:	• disentangle • in-water surface resuscitation • remove cause of entrapment • rescue: • conscious diver • unconscious diver
Ascent may include:	• buoyancy compensator • lifeline • shedding weights • stage • underwater propulsion device • with and without air supply
Shedding weights may include:	• mid-water • seabed • surface

Unit Sector(s)

Diving operations