

DIVENWS

042022

**MECD'S INTEGRATED
TRAINING FACILITY**

**DIVING STORIES
OF THE PAST**

**THE BADGE:
YASSER A. ELHARIDI
STEPHEN STACK**

**THE COMMERCIAL
DIVER IN 2022**



POMMEC-HYTECH



International Diving Schools Association (IDSA)

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The Alan Bax Award honorable mention:

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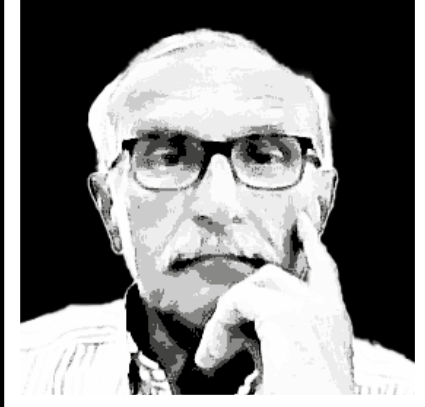
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& LIFE SUPPORT SOLUTIONS

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GO TOPHON



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

LEO LAGARDE

On behalf of the Board I do hope that you have been keeping well during these uncertain times. Now COVID 19 measurements are decreased we see that the need of diving training courses is rising. In 2021 we issued 490 IDSA Q Cards. Hopefully this year it will be much better.

This year the IDSA celebrate his 40th anniversary, so we will have a special moment during the Annual Meeting this year.

We checked the willingness to join the IDSA Annual Meeting 2022 hosted by BIM Ireland. It is good to see that the willingness is good, that is a good sign. Our host has set up an interested program for this meeting.

Joining the IDSA Annual Meeting is a tool of our mission. Our mission is and stays to improve the diving quality and diving safety worldwide. To communicate, network and exchange knowledge is essential for our aim.

As a member of IDSA you will take the opportunity to use the worldwide built knowledge about diving safety and quality. And you and your staff will show the importance of good education and proof that a certain basic education is required to perform the profession safely. The power is that worldwide IDSA members offers the same training conform IDSA standards & procedures in their own language in their own region. Which improve the safety on dive site as well.

IDSA is the platform to communicate with commercial diving schools worldwide about diving safety. IDSA members –together - are helping to make commercial diving safer – this is a continuing process. Our influence, with your support, goes beyond training.

We achieved last year that we have now 1487 followers on Instagram. Please help us to increase this. I have checked the IDSA website and I really appreciate it that members use the opportunity to manage their own data on the website. But it can be much better. Use this tool to promote your school.

The IDSA Training standards are updated and were sent to all the IDSA members in October 2021 to implement. The Technical Committee is looking forward to see your support, in questions and other (innovative) improvements. The Technical Committee has already made three advices accepted by the Board and for proposal to accept by full members during the Annual Meeting.

At this moment an IDSA Handbook for Commercial Diver is prepared and already for 70-80% ready. The next item is to make an IDSA Standard for Dive Supervisors.

The audit program is back on track and the re-audits for the full members are scheduled. We welcome our new full member SAB in Belgium, and we wish them all the best with their school. They will also join the Annual meeting so a good moment from them to introduce them to the other members.

At the end of March, the board has planned a board meeting in Rennes to bid an appropriate farewell to founder Alan Bax and his wife Gill Williams. Alan and Gill are no longer physically able to make the trip to Ireland, so we set up a skype connection during the annual meeting so that you can all say goodbye to Alan and Gill.

Because the Annual Meeting is planned in May 2022 we shall start the call for nominations asap. The seats of the Board Members Robbert de Bie and Mark van der Esch are vacant. Robbert is available for re-election.

The IDSA Annual Meeting 2022 will be from 9th May – 12th May hosted by BIM in Ireland. Hopefully we will have vivid discussion and can learn from each other.

Hope to meet you in person.
We need your help.

Your Chairman,
Leo Lagarde



FROM THE EDITOR

ROBBERT DE BIE

In this third edition of the new version of IDSA news, our goal of having a magazine for the members by the members is becoming more of a reality, and this is exactly what we want.

Being the editor of IDSA news is a very challenging and satisfying responsibility. After all, our readers rely on IDSA news to fulfil their needs regarding topics which they bring to the table.

As editor I am ready, and await your input to together improve the topics and publications of the IDSA magazine and achieve the above goals.

We have some standard items, topics in our magazine, such

as; *Medical issues, The Badge, Historical Diving* and *The Student*.

Finally, we trust that you can identify yourselves in these topics and that this will encourage you to take part in the next edition of the magazine, therefore we ask you to send us articles regarding your schools, education and from the divers who followed the trainings. So please which school we can challenge to tell what they are doing!

If there are members that are willing to help out with making IDSA news please let me know, because we can use all help we can get.

Enjoy reading the IDSA News and Safe Diving Training!

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INSTITUTO DE BUCEO COMERCIAL TECHDIVING 5th ANNIVERSARY

We proudly celebrating our 5th anniversary. We teach under national standards like SEMAR, SEP, NOM-014- STPS, and International Standards like ADCI and IDSA, in which we are associate members. The Commercial Diver course length is 4 months or 650 hr. Classes are given from Monday to Friday and from 9:00 to 19:00 hr. The students are welcome to stay in our "camp" just some steps away from the Institute. The students acquire the knowledge and skills so that they can be integrated into the labor field as diver's assistants. We teach emphasizing general topics related to oil platforms, vessels, ports, dams, etc. Students also have the opportunity to learn from the great experience and leadership of the instructors, who are retired divers with extensive and proven experience.

Orgullosamente festejamos nuestros 5º aniversario. Trabajamos bajo estándares nacionales como SEMAR, SEP, NOM-014- STPS e internacionales como ADCI e IDSA en las que somos miembros asociados. El curso de Buceo Comercial dura 4 meses o 650 h. Las clases se imparten de 9:00 a 19:00 h. de lunes a viernes. Los alumnos se hospedan en nuestro campamento a unos pasos del Instituto. Los alumnos adquieren los conocimientos y habilidades para integrarse al campo laboral como buzos asistentes. Enfatizamos en la enseñanza de temas generales relacionados con plataformas petroleras, embarcaciones, puertos, presas, etc. Los alumnos también tienen la oportunidad de aprender de la gran experiencia y liderazgo que tienen los instructores, quienes son buzos retirados con amplia y comprobada experiencia.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
www.institutodebuceocomercial.lat/
whatsapp +52 229 213 7156
Note: classes only in Spanish



"A nombre de la Junta Directiva de la ADCI, formalmente extendemos felicitaciones al INSTITUTO DE BUCEO COMERCIAL TECHDIVING en su 5to Aniversario. El Instituto representa con orgullo a Escuelas Asociadas Miembros de la Asociación en Latinoamérica. Ha formado profesionales para empresas reconocidas en la Industria del Buceo Comercial en México, recibiendo actualmente a estudiantes extranjeros. El Instituto ha sido un excelente ejemplo de cómo adherirse a los estándares establecidos para los programas de capacitación de buzos comerciales en la ADCI Asociación Internacional de Contratistas de Buzos Comerciales. Apreciamos y respaldamos la institución." Phil Newsum, director ejecutivo de ADCI



POMMEC BV AND IHC HYTECH BV CONTINUE AS POMMEC-HYTECH

We are proud to inform you that the companies Pommec BV and IHC Hytech BV will continue as Pommec-Hytech from now on.

This strong combination, realized by the Pommé family together with some private investors, will result in a powerful company with a top-3 position worldwide and a combined existence of more than 75 years.

Pommec-Hytech will be an innovative frontrunner in providing high quality systems and services in specialized markets around the world.

We would like to thank you for your trust in both Pommec and Hytech and look forward to continuing and expanding our relationship. You will not be adversely affected by this merger; in fact, you will benefit from the best of both worlds!

We will work on new products and ideas for the market and please contact our sales department for all your spare parts, communication boxes, diving panels, decompression chamber and all that you need for professional diving and diving training.

Contact information:

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To keep our motivation & high levels of standards, we must adapt to meet the updates. Meet our inspirational Integrated training facility. It's simply just "All in one".

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A workshop equipped with different diving equipment for technician courses.



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Decompression chamber for different courses.



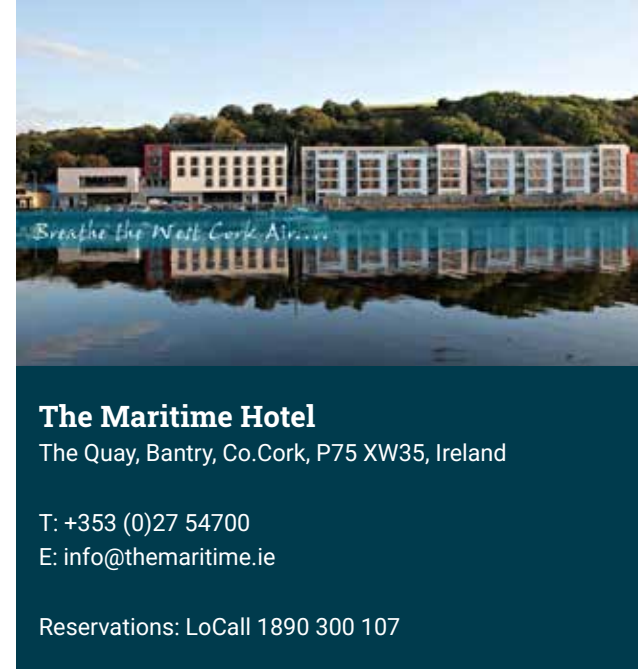
2 classrooms equipped with screens & different aids like first aid manikin for theoretical lectures.



Cafeteria, shower rooms, cloak rooms and dry room.

The inauguration was held with all MECD team where our IT specialist designed a special application with a button for each employ to start announcement on the social media and our website. All employees needed to press the button for that to happen. MECD is the place where our employees feel that "All is One".

IDSA ANNUAL MEETING 2022 9 - 12 MAY IN IRELAND



The Maritime Hotel

The Quay, Bantry, Co.Cork, P75 XW35, Ireland

T: +353 (0)27 54700

E: info@themaritime.ie

Reservations: LoCall 1890 300 107

Accommodation

The Maritime Hotel and Spa is situated in the town of Bantry approximately 45 minutes from the BIM National Fisheries and Diving College in Castletownbere. A minibus will bring delegates to and from the college each day for the IDSA meeting. A special Bed & Breakfast rate has been agreed with the hotel as follows; twin/double room €60 per person sharing, single room €90. B&B plus Dinner twin/double €85 p/p sharing, single €115.



The conference will be held in the BIM National Fisheries and Diving College with lunch and refreshments provided. The conference room is equipped with 80" Touch screen monitor, internet access and full IT facilities. Printing and copying facilities are available.

Visits

A tour of the college and facilities will be provided and subject to time and weather a coach tour or boat tour will be arranged to allow delegates enjoy some of the wild Atlantic coastline and stunning Irish scenery. A brief stop in a local hostelry may be incorporated.



Conference fee

The conference fee is €350 per person includes the following;

- Minibus transfer from Cork Airport to Bantry return, departing 15:00 May 9th.
- Welcome drinks at the Maritime Hotel May 9th 17:30
- Minibus transfer to the college each day.
- Lunch and refreshments 10th & 11th.
- Association dinner 11th
- Guided Tour of Beara Ring 12th



Non Delegates

Cost for Annual Dinner/ Drinks reception / Airport transfer / guided tour for non delegates €90

Registration

Register by sending an email to post@idsaworldwide.org (= email address of Secretariat in Pijnacker, The Netherlands).

Stating:

- Name of school / company
- Name of participant(s) meeting
- Name of extra participant(s) only social program
- Contact details of delegates and Invoicing address

This year the IDSA Annual meeting will be hosted by Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM), the Irish Sea Food Development Agency, at the National Fisheries and Diving College in Castletownbere Co. Cork Ireland. BIM is an associate member of IDSA and has recently resumed commercial diver training activities. In support of the fishing and aquaculture industry BIM offer a range of training programmes including Skipper, Engineer, Deck Hand, Fire Fighting, Sea Survival, Occupational First Aid, Passenger Boat Certificate of Proficiency, Aquaculture and Commercial Diver training.

Conference Dates

The conference will run on 10 - 12 May with delegates arriving in Bantry on May 9th. Accommodation is based in Bantry and delegates will travel to the BIM Diving college in Castletownbere daily.

Location

Bantry is approximately 1.5 hours drive from Cork airport situated at the head of the Beara Peninsula. Direct flights to Cork airport are available from a number of hubs throughout Europe. A minibus can collect delegates from the airport and transfer to Bantry by arrangement or delegates may wish to Rent A Car at the airport and drive independently or avail of public transport from Cork city on Bus Eireann. It is a very picturesque journey as West Cork and the Beara peninsular are well known as an areas of outstanding natural beauty Cork Airport to Bantry route.



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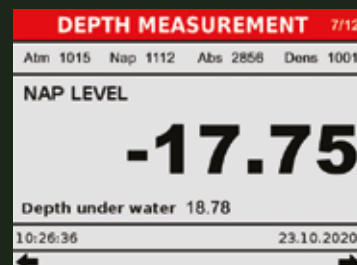
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NYD: TRULY INTER- NATIONAL



The diving industry is international. Few places demonstrates this fact better than NYD Subsea Training Center in Oslo, Norway.

In fact, 8 out of 10 instructors at the school have roots outside of Norway. Most of them made their first visit to Norway as students at NYD, and have since returned to work as instructors after gaining experience out in the industry.

Sweden, Turkey, Egypt, Bosnia, New Zealand and the Netherlands are all represented in the teaching staff at NYD.

We are an international business, with students and clients from all over the world. There are strong benefits for us as a company to have staff with understanding of different cultures and languages, says Lars William Wroldsen, managing director of NYD.

Emir Temim is a native Bosnian. The Balkan wars in the 1990's forced him to move to Spain where he went to high school and learned Spanish, before returning to Bosnia years later as an interpreter for the Spanish Armed Forces. It was here he met the Norwegian woman he would later marry. Once established with his new wife in Norway, he started training as a diver at NYD in 2002. After years in inshore construction diving, Emir started as an instructor at NYD in 2020.

It was easy to start working in Norway. In general people honor the agreements we make, and the people are flexible and helpful. I made lots of mistakes to begin with, but I learned fast with great support from my co-workers, Emir says.

At NYD diversity in culture and language is considered a

strength when operating in an international market:

Emir is a great example of someone who speaks multiple languages and is able to use this to his advantage when dealing with students. He is better able than most of us to handle issues where culture and language is a part of the equation, says Wroldsen.

Born and raised in New Zealand, and trained as a diver in Australia Martin Cavanagh is the staffer who by far has moved farthest away from his native country. His journey as a diver has taken him across the globe, before finally meeting his Norwegian wife Tove on one of his travels. After having worked as a diver on the west-coast of Norway for a few years Martin joined NYD in 2015. Since then Martin has been promoted to chief instructor at NYD.

I really never thought about becoming an instructor until a position opened up at NYD. I really enjoy being a part of the International environment here. I think my background allows me to merge the best of New Zealand and Norway, Martin says.

Martin is one of few instructors who isn't a former student at NYD. We try to recruit instructors who have done their training with us in the past. They know us, and we know them and the training they have. Being an instructor requires different skills from being a diver, and we try to identify talent for the future among our students, Wroldsen says.

NYD has more than 350 students passing through their different training programs annually. Many of these come from outside Norway. Chances are that some of them one day might return to NYD as instructors.



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DIVETECH UNDERWATER SERVICES DUBAI, UAE

Successful anchor retrieval operations in Gulf.

November 2021, A Drill ship was set to sail out on her voyage from Dubai Anchorage. Unfortunately, she lost her port side anchor and 13 shackles of chain during heaving operations.

M/S DIVETECH UNDERWATER SERVICES was appointed by the owners for lost anchor search and retrieval operations. Divetech mobilized 8 men professional dive team with containerized SSDS (Surface supplied Dive Spread) and all necessary and tools to locate and recover the lost anchor and its shackles. The High Holding Power (HHP) anchor weighed around 12 tonnages and 13 shackles with each weighing over 5 T overall total of nearly 80 tonnages.

Water depth at the location was reported as -25 meters and having only rough coordinates, divers commenced search operations within a 50m radius with reference to coordinates and barely a short time, DIVETECH diving team managed to locate the anchor and pile of chain within merely 2-3 hours of searching the location. The team placed marker buoy prior to retrieval operations.

After a prolonged round table conference between all the parties involved, retrieval operation was planned to be executed on a flawless day at anchorage with all necessary permission from authorities and concerned parties.

Dive team secured the anchor and shackles to crane's boom which was lifted and delivered to dispatch for repair and restoration.

DIVETECH UNDERWATER SERVICES successfully completed anchor retrieval operations under strict compliance of HSE and quality demonstration without any reportable incident or any equipment malfunction.



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FIRST AID COURSE

After 3 days of prolonged theoretical & practical sessions followed by one day of assessment, Trainees have professionally passed their First Aid for Diving course according to IDSA memo 018/2020.

They practically & theoretically studied the principles of first aid, bleeding, shock, wounds, musculo-skeletal injuries, burns, respiratory & cardiac emergencies, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, diving related illness...etc.

Emphasizing on using personal protective equipment was added due to pandemic, with discussion of different types of them.

Mouth to mouth CPR is explained theoretically & with audiovisual aids then practically by using Ambu bags, face masks & pocket masks to protect the trainees from any cross-infection possibilities.



MEDICAL FIRST AID PROVIDER

By Dr Hossam A. El-Masry - CEO Middle East for Commercial Diving MECD

First Aid providers are divers or supervisors who are trained to look after the special medical problems of divers. They must be able to carry out clinical examinations and be able to report their findings accurately. Preferably supervisors and divers should have paramedical training. Nowadays due to COVID-19 pandemic, first aid courses should be reshaped to protect the trainees during the course & the work site from cross infection.

Responsibilities of first aid providers:

- Assess a situation quickly and safely and summon appropriate help.
- Protect casualties and others at the scene from possible danger.
- Identify, as far as possible, the injury or nature of the illness affecting a casualty.
- Give each casualty early and appropriate treatment, treating the most serious conditions first.
- Arrange for the casualty's removal to hospital, into the care of a doctor, or to his or her home.
- Treat casualty in position found if applicable.
- Observe & remain with a casualty until appropriate care is available.
- Report your observations to those taking over care of the casualty, and to give further assistance if required.
- Prevent cross-infection between yourself and the casualty as much as possible.
- Should be aware of the medical equipment & drugs available and how to. They should check it regularly (batteries, expiration dates of the drugs...etc.)

Aims of First Aid

- To preserve life.
- To limit worsening of the condition.
- To promote recovery & healing.

That's why a first aid provider should be:

- Highly trained & confident.
- Examined and regularly re-examined.
- Up to date in knowledge and skills.

Protecting yourself against infection

- Always carry protective gloves & wear a facemask.
- Cover your own sores or skin wounds with a waterproof plaster.
- Wear a plastic apron when dealing with large quantities of a casualty's body fluids and wear plastic glasses to protect your eyes against splashes.
- Take care not to prick yourself with any needle found on or near the casualty, or to cut yourself on glass.
- If your eyes, nose or mouth or any wound on your skin is splashed by the casualty's blood, wash thoroughly with soap and water as soon as possible, and consult a doctor.
- Use a mask or face shield for mouth-to-mouth ventilation or ambu bag if the casualty's mouth or nose is bleeding & to protect yourself from respiratory tract infection like COVID-19.
- Dispose of blood and waste safely after treating the casualty in special bags & label it.
- Seeking immunization especially for COVID-19, Hepatitis ...etc.



KBA TRAINING CENTRE PTE LTD LAUNCHES NEW ONLINE TRAINING COURSE

KBA Training Centre Pte Ltd, has launched their revised and 'NEW' Diving System Inspectors course via 'online learning'. The course is created in response to IMCA's announcement on 30 July 2021 on the implementation of IMCA Accredited Diving System Inspector (ADSI) Scheme in 2022.

The Diving System Inspectors Course is curated for personnel in the offshore energy diving industry who aspire to embark on a career as a Diving System Inspector. The course aims to fill the gap in the industry with skilled personnel with the academic competencies to conduct objective auditing of diving systems.

The newly launched Diving System Inspectors course is realigned to meet demands of today's learner's market with accessibility anywhere, anytime. It will be a fully online interactive course consisting of seven modules with real-life scenarios and shared experiences, lessons learnt, three hours of short videos, quizzes, podcast, and key learning takeaways.

**DEVELOP
COMPETENCY
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INSPECTORS
COURSE**

The course content is aligned with ISO19011 and IMCA's Guidance, and the technical and theory aspects of the requirements

Upon completion of the theory elements online, candidates will be required to complete practical diving system inspection exercises

online including identifying system examples via photographs. This will gauge the candidates' understanding of the learning covered and demonstrate their ability to implement the competencies learned.

"This online course sets a new precedent for our industry regarding the learning experience and how the content is shared. With the recent changes in how we do things, from work, study, and implementation of new skills, training remains a dynamic activity, whereby individuals need to progress in their careers, develop competency and ensure the workplace is safe. This course provides the full package of engaged theory lessons, examinations and practical assessments that are required to be completed and

submitted for review. The course content is designed based on the wealth of experience from thousands of diving system audits conducted over 20 years" said Darren Brunton Managing Director of KBA Training Centre Pte Ltd.

For more information, contact KBA Training at **+65 6542 4984** or courses@kbatraining.org

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www.kbatraining.org



Egyptian International Diving School

We proudly offer both **Commercial Air Diver training** and **Recreational Diving training**, according to the international standards.

The **Commercial Air Diver training** is certified by the **International Diving Schools Association (IDSA)**.
The **Recreational Diving training** is certified by the **Confédération Mondiale des Activités Subaquatiques (CMAS)** and the **Scuba Schools International (SSI)**.

Egyptian International Diving School (EIDS) is the first diving school in Egypt to acquire a license from the **Egyptian Authority for Maritime Safety (EAMS)**, which is the approved governmental society for commercial air diver certification.

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- **Underwater Cutting**
- **Diving First Aid**

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www.eids-egypt.com

NEW CHALLENGES COMMERCIAL DIVING TRAINING

As a result of all the events that occurred due to Covid-19 and the restrictions on face-to-face training for a certain time, in Océanos we decided to continue the courses in 2020, implementing a new system to teach the theoretical content of the diving courses.

We could have opted for provisional solutions, but we decided to bet on a digital tool that had a future path. That is why we have been working on the development of a digital platform to teach the theoretical content of the courses through an online system. This is how Océanos Campus was born.

On the digital platform, students can find content manuals, exercises, questionnaires, videos and other teaching materials to get in touch with the knowledge and study at their own pace.

Océanos trainers provide the necessary support and conduct live classes via video conference from the digital platform to complete more complex matters and clarify doubts. These classes remain recorded at digital platform so that students can review them whenever they need it.

The system is audited by our Authority and allows the storage of results and assessment of the student. The official examiners can audit the course during the development and during the final exams to give guarantee and security to the system.

When the theoretical phase of the courses has been completed, the student attends in person the development of the practical phase.

Considering that most of the students come from different cities and are active workers, this online and face-to-face option generally provides many advantages to the school and the student:

- **Open source:** Software Open means you design and decide what happens on your platform.
- **Security & privacy:** Enables you to have complete control over your data to meet your local legislation requirements, including GDPR compliance.
- **Flexible learning:** A pedagogical toolbox to teach the way you want, to any number of learners. Student works at his own pace.
- **Mobile learning:** Allows the use of platform in many environments where learners don't have computers or only poor internet connections.
- **Accessible for all:** Allows the design of courses that accommodate all learners.
- **Video conferences classes:** Allows students and teachers to get closer.

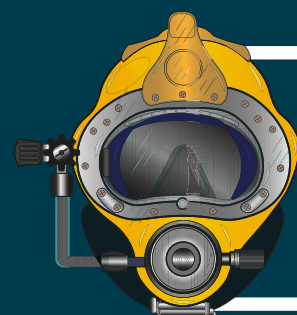
In conclusion, technology in remote education is a support for the theoretical content that schools should introduce in professional diving training programs.

It requires an effort for schools to develop a remote system that maintains a quality of content and an approach always towards the student.

However, this alternative is being very well received by the sector since it reduces the permanence of students who have to travel and facilitates the organization of the study. The new generations of divers will adapt without problem to the new challenges. Océanos believes it is a good bet for the future.



DAVID LOPEZ LABARGA: A PROFESSIONAL DIVER EXPLAINS



Name: David Lopez Labarga
From: Spain
Trained at: Océanos, Professional School Diving Barcelona
Graduation year: 2020

In what year were you trained as a professional diver?

In 2020.

Where did you receive your diving training?

Océanos, Professional School Diving (Barcelona) Spain.

How did you experience the time of your training?

It was incredible, I learned a lot and I made many friends...

What is your technical background before starting the training?

I studied and worked as a welder.

What did you have to do in the field of further education / safety training to practice your profession?

I learned a lot about physics, first aid, rescues, maneuvers, use of tools and how to work safely.

How did you experience the time after your training - eg finding the right employer?

It was difficult, the sector is small but with help and effort I was able to start in this profession.

Are you employed by a diving company or are you self-employed?

I am employed at a diving company.

How did you find your way into the job market in the beginning?

I got my first job calling and calling randomly, but the first great experience was in Netherlands thanks to the opportunity that one of the most prestigious companies in Spain gave me.

Have you underestimated things?

Sometimes, but I always found the solution till now.

Have you overestimated things?

Yes, especially at the beginning.

Where do you work now diving company / region / international / work field civil underwater construction, shipping, ports, SAT)?

Now i work in Spain with more than one company, civil works, ports, hydroelectric plants...

What is your specialty within the specialty of the diving company?

Welding obviously, I love that specialty.

What does your day look like in the workplace?

All days are different, that's the good thing.



How did you see your profession develop or foresee future developments in terms of innovation, knowledge transfer, rules about safe diving, etc. (Do you see differences in the workplace since you started and now)?

Of course, it depends a lot on the company you work for. But in general this work is one of constant learning and evolution.

Have you mapped out your future - are there still challenges?

I think I just started, I have a long way to go. Many challenges in mind.

If you had the choice now to become a professional diver - with the knowledge of today - what would you do?

Study some courses outside my country.

How do you see the labour market developing?

It is very unstable, but it seems that more and more work comes out.

How important is it to be able to work in a team where the dive supervisor is in charge, but you as a diver are also expected to think along about diving safety and the technical aspect of the assignment?

The most important thing in this job is safety, the concentration of your supervisor and yours must be one.

What would you like to advise future divers?

Don't be in a hurry, always do your best and try to learn from everyone you work with.

THE BADGE

How did you get involved with diving? What are your ambitions? What annoys you the most? In The Badge we talk to people from the Professional diving world and find out who they really are and what drives them. In this month's issue we meet Yasser A. Elharidi from Egypt who is the manager of diving program AASTMT.



01 How did you get involved with the Professional diving world?

I was an officer in the Egyptian navy force in 1982 I start my carrier in commercial diving in 1990 by taking several courses in the field of commercial & Salvage diving in salvage department in the Egyptian navy force. After start to work in this field for some time I start may career in training commercial diver in several field (underwater cutting & welding – underwater explosive – salvage) graduated many commercial

divers military & civilian diver.

After I have retired from the Egyptian Navy in 2009, I contained working in the same field by being the manager of Diving Program - AASTMT and continued in my carrier in training and graduate diver.

02 Who did you learn the most from?

I am very proud of being one of the officers in the salvage department of the Egyptian Navy working in the field of commercial diving as I have gained

a lot of experience & Knowledge (practical & theoretical) during this period. And also to contained my carrier in the AASTMT diving program as it is the oldest Commercial diving program in the middle east and it was start this program to well qualified commercial diver to start there carrier in this field.

03 What are your drives and ambitions?

Is to succeed in graduated well training diver and give them good

experience to start their carrier in the field to be very proud that they are choice to be diver. Also, to satisfaction all employees all over the world working in the field with our diver.

I hope to let IDSA more popular all over the world and to put accreditation program & Standard for other courses such as (underwater cutting & welding -supervisor).

04 What annoys you the most?

May annoys that our student that

holding IDSA qualification may sometime not find job in some company outside of Egypt because they need the diver to have IMCA qualification.

05 What is your life moto?

Continuing in graduate & train divers efficiently and with a high level of training and seriousness and knowledge of the requirements and risks of work

MY GOAL IS TO TRAIN DIVERS EFFICIENTLY AND WITH A HIGH LEVEL OF SERIOUSNESS AND KNOWLEDGE



DIVING STORIES OF THE PAST

FIRST DIVER IN AMERICA

By Mike Fardell, Historical Diving Society

In 1629 the infant colony of the Massachusetts Company welcomed its first resident governor, John Winthrop, and an influx of new colonists which increased the population some tenfold. Our knowledge of the colony during two decades is derived principally from Winthrop's extensive journals and it is from these that we learn of Edward Bendall.

Bendall appears to have arrived at the colony with Winthrop, but, aside from a few minor mentions, it is not until 1642 that any extensive notice of him occurs.

On the 27th August, 1640, the Mary Rose, a Bristol merchant ship of 200 tons, whilst lying at anchor before Charlton (now part of Boston) blew up and sank. The captain, nine or ten crew members and four or five other people were all killed. The reason for the explosion was clear: the cargo included, twenty one barrels of gunpowder. How the powder had taken fire, however, was not so apparent and the sole survivor, a member of the crew, was unable to explain the cause.

Many of the colonists needed no secular explanation, deriving a certain grim satisfaction from what they saw as the Lord's retribution on a captain and crew who had been "profane scoffers at us, and at the ordinances of religion here."⁽¹⁾ A letter to Winthrop talks of the crew's drinking, singing and music making on the Sabbath ⁽²⁾ and there also seems to have been resentment at the crew's preference for shipboard services over those held on shore. The ship's owners were given ample time to remove the wreck which formed a considerable obstruction in the harbour but on their failure to take any action Edward Bendall was appointed to the task in 1642. His agreement gave him all he recovered subject to his removing the wreck completely; otherwise he was to get one half.⁽³⁾

Bendall used diving bells, of whose construction and use Winthrop has left us the following description: "He made two great tubs, bigger than a butt, very tight and open at one end, upon which were hanged so many weights (600wt) as would sink it to the ground. It was let down, the diver sitting in it, a cord in his hand to give notice when they should draw him up, and another cord to show when they should remove it from place to place, so he could continue in his tub near half an hour, and fasten ropes to the ordnance, and put the lead, etc., into a net or tub. And when the tub was drawn up, one knocked upon the head of it, and thrust a long pole under water, which the diver laid hold of, and so was drawn up by it; for they might not draw the open end out of water for endangering him, etc."⁽⁴⁾

Use of the diving bell in the Caribbean at this time seems to have been quite common and the close trading relationship between the New England colonies and various Caribbean islands, including Bermuda, must surely indicate the origin of Bendall's design. The last part of the description is curious, however. Why should drawing the bell out of the water endanger its occupant? Possibly this was due to a combination of inadequate tackle and an exposed site, or perhaps the abrupt change of pressure alarmed the diver. There records do not show how successful Bendall's salvage of the Mary Rose was. Aside from ten pieces of ordnance she was carrying fifteen tons of lead, the specific mention of these items in Winthrop's description giving an indication of their value. Perhaps the fact that at the time of his death in 1682 Bendall owned land in the harbour (which was indeed named after him) and a warehouse, together with his activities subsequent to 1642, are sufficient proof of his success.

A curious incident concerning the Mary Rose ordnance is worth recounting, it seems that about £30 was hidden in one of the guns, a fact which became well known. Consequently all the recovered guns were searched and a wad of rope yarn was taken from one of them.

Attempts to undo it were abandoned because of its wet and foul state and it was thrown away. A few days later it was decided to try one of the guns and same wad was used in lieu of shot and fired into the channel. Subsequently, at low water, several pieces of gold and silver were found by passers-by. When the finders

refused to give up the money Bendall took them to court. ⁽⁵⁾

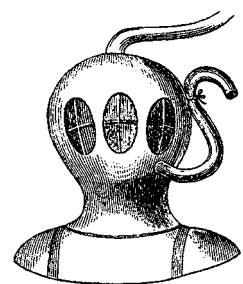
In September of 1642 a locally owned 200 ton ship, the Trial, left on a trading voyage to the Caribbean. At St. Christophers (now St. Kitts) the master, Thomas Coytmore, was licenced by the governor to salvage a wreck and did so to good effect, recovering 50 guns, anchors and cables by use of a diving bell,⁽⁶⁾ an exploit obviously inspired by Bendall's activities and which may in turn have led to Bendall's next move, in 1646. This was an unsuccessful petition for a commission to dive for ordnance in the West Indies.⁽⁷⁾ It was made to Robert Rich, Earl of Warwick, who was a council member in both the New England and Somers Island (Bermuda) companies, and was presumably presented in person since Bendall is known to have been in England in April, 1646.⁽⁸⁾

Bendall's final appearance in the records is in May, 1649, when he petitioned the Company for "a pattent for improving his projet to dive in a tubb", further details of which are not given.⁽⁹⁾ This, too, was rejected.

Edward Bendall References

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3. Savage: Vol. 2, pp87/88.
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5. *Ibid*. Vol.2, p.89.
6. *Ibid*. Vol. 2, p.14.
7. *Mass. Hist. Scty*: Vol. 5, p.58.
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9. Shurtleff, N. B. (Editor): *Records of the Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England and Boston*: 1853, vol. 3.

In 2013 the late Dr. James Vorosmarti published a letter in the International Journal of Diving History (vol. 6, pp.90-1) in which he provided some further background information on Bendall, derived from an article in the New England Magazine (vol. 7 (1890) Hale, E.E. Jr.: Edward Bendall and the Mary Rose) as well as of later divers.



The Historical Diving Society

www.thehds.com

www.divingmuseum.co.uk

Charity No. 1159032

Promoting and Preserving our Diving Heritage

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EGYPTIAN INTERNATIONAL DIVING SCHOOL



Egyptian International Diving School (EIDS) was established by skilled and dedicated team of veterans Capt. Omar Ezz El Din, owner of a Diving and Marine Contractor Co. (INW) and Capt Mohsen El Gohary former Diving School Manger, (International Academy for Diving Technology) both of whom had worked as divers and dive supervisors with over a century of combined experience in the Commercial Diving Industry. Their objective was to produce professionals trained and educated divers to prepare the next generation of commercial divers.



EIDS is a non-profit school designed to provide commercial diving, recreational diving, and Oil and Gas Industries with entry-level and post-graduate personnel, who excel in knowledge, skills, safety and work ethics. The two founders' goal in developing the school is to

educate students the skills they need to find lifelong employment in the Commercial Diving Industry.

The graduates

The graduates Upon graduation, all students are evaluated and skilled graduates are selected to join INW's team to work as Commercial Divers or as trainers in the school. This year we were proud that four engineers graduated from EIDS joined INW Team.

Community Service

In continuation of serving the community, each year EIDS and INW sponsor an Environment Day for raising awareness

on environmental issue such as marine pollution and spread awareness about the threat to the environment due to rising pollution levels. The activities included cleaning the seabed, cleaning up trash alongside beach, removing garbage from streets and beautifying the square within the area.



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THE BADGE

How did you get involved with diving? What are your ambitions? What annoys you the most? In The Badge we talk to people from the Professional diving world and find out who they really are and what drives them. In this month's issue we meet Stephen Stack from Ireland who is a Lieutenant Commander in the Irish Navy.



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01 How did you get involved with the Professional diving world?

I joined the Irish Navy in 2004. I had no experience in Diving whatsoever but after I joined, I encountered members of our Naval Service Diving Section. This is one of the most difficult courses to pass in the Irish Military, with approx. 70% failure rate, so the challenge appealed to me. I eventually got to a position where I could apply for the Diving Course and I qualified as a Naval Diver in 2014, with four (4) out of seventeen (17) students passing the course that year. I then went to Canada on an exchange programme with the Royal Canadian Navy and after a 12-month course, qualified as a Minewarfare & Clearance Diving Officer in 2017. I have been filling my current role as Officer in Charge, Naval Service Diving Section since April 2019.

02 Who did you learn the most from?

We had a number of great instructors on our Diving Course, some guys with a lot of operational experience and knowledge. Noel "Nuggy" Dunne had a unique way of making sure we learned from our mistakes! I would get a hard time if I didn't mention Tony O'Regan here also. He served as Officer in Charge, Naval service Diving Section on numerous occasions.

03 What are your drives and ambitions?

The betterment of our Naval Service's Diving Section. The guys here have worked hard and sacrificed a lot as Naval Divers so anything that I can do to improve the Unit and develop our capabilities, that's my main focus.

04 What annoys you the most?

People who don't pull their weight and are not team players. We identify those guys very early on in our courses and they don't make it very far!

05 What is your life moto?

What is for you won't pass you by (i.e. despite what you may think at the time, things will always work out the way they are supposed to).

**PEOPLE WHO
ARE NOT
TEAM PLAYERS
DON'T MAKE
IT VERY FAR**



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All measurements are error checked to ensure only accurate readings are displayed, even on uncoated metal. The gauge is simple to use, with little operator input, and has a large bright 10 mm display which ensures it can be easily read by the diver, even in poor visibility. It easily upgrades to a topside repeater with either a surface display unit or datalogging option.

The gauge uses multiple echo and single crystal probes in accordance with class society regulations.

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WÄRTSILÄ UNDERWATER SERVICES

Wärtsilä Underwater Services (formerly Trident) started its journey in September 1993 as an underwater service provider with a team of two divers, specialising in repairing, overhauling, and servicing seagoing vessels, marine installations, and rigs for the commercial, energy, and navy markets.

Since then, it has established a far-reaching partner network of factory-trained, industry-certified diver technicians operating on a global scale, as well as a number of offices across Europe.

That, combined with its industry-specific product training programmes and access to Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) products and solutions, position it to offer technical maritime support and solutions when customers need it most while guaranteeing a high standard of service and commercial diving equipment.

Its innovative approach, outside-the-box thinking, and ability to handle warranty claims have proven invaluable to customers, which is why Wärtsilä Underwater Services is considered the OEM's underwater service provider of choice.

Areas of Expertise

Our underwater maintenance and repair services are divided into the following areas of expertise.

- Machinery and equipment
- Propulsion
- Shaft sealing systems
- Shell plate repair
- Ship husbandry
- Oil and gas





THE COMMERCIAL DIVER IN 2022



Felix van Eecke is a commercial diver from Gent, Belgium and working for Wärtsilä, Terneuzen in The Netherlands.

He is 26 years old. A nephew, who is a commercial diver, was his inspiration to become a commercial diver. He followed his commercial diver training in 2019 in Norway. Our IDSA Full Member NYD.

When he started to focus on his future he was not intending to become a commercial diver. He had a bachelors decree physical education (sport) and for his bachelors' decree electro mechanics he used the obligated internship of six months to follow the commercial diver training course. For his final report internship, he returned back to the training school in Norway for support of one of the senior instructors.

However, his focus was not to become a commercial diver he realised that having a technical background is necessary. Fortunately, he worked as a carpenter during the school holidays. He had less experience as a recreational diver, so he experienced that as unprepared. During the training he learned a lot and experienced the lessons as pleasant. His own words: It was super interesting and I learned a lot.

He contacted one diving contractor in the Netherlands, Wärtsilä (formerly Trident BV) in Terneuzen. He sent his cv and was directly invited to come for a job interview. Wärtsilä invests in a lot of efforts to prevent incidents and/or accidents during work. So regularly safety training courses are offered online.

For specialism Wärtsilä offers also in company courses. Felix has followed an Engineering course specially focused on his work as a service engineer in dry dock.



He has also his SOS-SCC certificate. In Dutch VCA-VOL.

In the Netherlands all the divers are advised to have an SOS-SCC diploma shows that you have basic knowledge of safety, health and the environment and that he can apply this knowledge. In this way, he increases both his own safety and that of the people he manages and/or his team. He is familiar with laws and regulations, can recognise dangerous situations and actions and know how to prevent them.

When asked if he underestimated things, he indicates that it can sometimes be very busy. He has little spare time. Physically it is hard work. He understands that it is sometimes difficult to combine with a family. Wärtsilä has a lot of diving work abroad. It is certainly not a nine-to-five-job. The working hours are adapted to the sailing schedule of the ship. Most of the time in shipping but incidentally also in the oil & gas industry.

When asked where he is going today -1st March 2022, he answers a job abroad. Antwerp Belgium is abroad because Wärtsilä has her office/warehouse in Terneuzen The Netherlands. Today it is a habitat job - he describes it as camping under water - this habitat is an underwater tent in which the diver can do the work in dry conditions. As an extra safety, the diver does keep his diving mask on. They are now building the habitat – with less visibility of 20 cm in the harbour of Antwerp.

The work will be started with a briefing, basic safety checklist which will be signed by the diving team, the supervisor checks all the safety measurements on the dive site and around the dive site (ship), the diver rescue system will be tested before starting the dive. Then the day can begin.

Because it is very busy at this moment, a lot of hours must be made per day. He tries to eat healthy. Tries. It is not possible to eat healthy every day. In a city supermarket are nearby. Most of the time he is responsible for his own food. When the diving team is on board of a ship, the food is much better.

Although he is too young to answer he saw a lot of changes on safety in the past 2 years. It is the policy of Wärtsilä. For example: for working in a habitat they must use their dive mask (AGA) and equipment. Also, before starting a job under a ship ROV is used to monitor the ship under surface – a research report will be made automatically. This is to make certain the job will be of good quality as well.

For the future he has not planned. He sees that Wärtsilä offers a lot of interesting vacancies and support to become better in his specialism.

For him the most important thing at this moment is, is that every day is different. The company is open minded and all the members of the dive team are invited to give their opinion. To think about a project as a team and be invited to give ideas this led to an interesting way to learn for each other.

It is too soon to answer the question – with the knowledge of today – will you make the same decision to become a commercial diver? He just started as a commercial diver.

At the end of this interview he says it is an interesting job, but you also have to be willing to give up a lot. He is positive about the future. A lot of ship owners prefers to avoid dry dock. They can also repair more and more underwater to provide that.

As for now Felix is very satisfied with the company's policy about safety and quality, working as a member of a team and that his opinion matters.

For future divers his message “when you want to work with your hands and brains it is an awesome job. Every day is different. Learning is a continuing process. The technical side is super interesting. As a member of the team you must trust and respect each other, because your colleagues and supervisor watch over your safety. And during dive projects abroad you become friends as well”.



BIM NATIONAL FISHERIES AND DIVING COLLEGE IRELAND



The BIM National Fisheries and Diving college, based in Castletownbere on the southernmost peninsula off the west coast of Ireland, is home to the only college offering Surface Supplied Diving courses in Ireland. Since the reintroduction of commercial diving courses in 2018, the college has provided the aquaculture and inshore diving industries with professionally qualified divers holding QQI Level 6 Inshore Surface Supplied Diving certification, recognised by the HSE UK. The college also offers a wide range of marine and safety programmes to those working in the seafood sector including GMDSS, Fishing Certificate of Competency, STCW Fire Fighting, Sea Survival, and First Aid at Work.



The aquaculture industry in Ireland has proved resilient over the past two years while the Covid pandemic prevails. It was due to the growing demand for divers to support the aquaculture industry that BIM re-engaged in commercial diver training.

At the outset, the college purchased a complete IMCA specification surface supplied diving system which was deployed on a hired barge in Bantry Bay. The weather

conditions in this remote location on the Atlantic seaboard are extremely volatile especially during the autumn and winter months, which is when the diving programmes are delivered. Calm clear conditions can turn dramatically into full-blown gale-force winds lashing the barge with hail and rain. Storm conditions frequently batter the west coast forcing ships into the shelter of Bantry Bay, a natural deep water harbour providing shelter from the Atlantic fury. While not always comfortable, these conditions add a real-world value and challenge to the programmes with students learning the importance of proper seaworthy dress and the need for adequate insulation when working for prolonged periods underwater. Divers leaving at the end of the course are in no doubt as to the realities of life as a commercial diver; particularly those who choose to work in the wilds of the Irish Atlantic.

While the rental barge was fit for purpose, it was not possible for the college to modify it to make it better suited to the developing courses. When the opportunity to acquire a barge arose, it made economic sense to do so and invest in a refurbishment programme that would better suit the needs of the diving programme and other training courses offered by the college. This project got underway in December 2020 and the barge "Sandfisher" was fully refurbished by at the Bere Island Boat yard under the watchful eye of boatyard owner Ger O Sullivan and launched



in September 2021 in time for the autumn diving programme. The barge measuring 30m by 12m with a two-story bridge, has been fully refitted, galvanised and painted and includes landing steps, electric derricks, drying room, galley and storage rooms. In order to reduce the carbon footprint of the diving programme, all machinery has been converted to electric power and a new state of the art hi-tec battery system has been installed that allows the barge to run in silent mode while diving operations are taking place.



At night when students are back in the college the generator kicks in and charges the battery system. This has made a significant difference to the noise level on the barge and added greatly to the comfort of the operation. As the generator is only run to recharge the batteries it significantly reduces the run time and associated fuel consumption and CO2 emissions.

The barge comfortably accommodates the compression chamber, dive control, plant & machinery, stores and workshops with plenty of working space remaining for dive operations and the possibility of adding a launch and recovery system at a later date.



Student feedback has been very positive and the actual delivery of the training programme has been made safer and more comfortable.

The BIM diver training barge is also being used as a research & development platform for European projects. The current EU

project using the vessel is Sensor Technologies for Remote Environmental Aquatic Monitoring (STREAM).

The STREAM project is an Ireland/Wales collaborative project. It brings Swansea University, Halpin Research & Innovation Centre, Munster Technical University, Waterford Institute of Technology, and University College Cork, as well as coastal communities, together on both sides of the Irish Sea to improve our understanding of climate change impacts. This improvement is to be achieved by lowering the cost of estuarine and marine observations and accelerating the information provided.

STREAM is developing sensors capable of providing real-time environmental data and disseminating this data via web portals and mobile applications to organisations responsible for protecting and improving Welsh and Irish waters. Data collected will also be shared locally to keep coastal communities informed about the local impacts of climate change.

Those attending the IDSA annual meeting being hosted by BIM in May will visit the barge and college during their stay. We look forward to welcoming you all onboard.





De Zeeman PRO presents: HK-P Model 2

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The pressure regulators are frost resistant and have been successfully tested at -20°C air temperature and +4°C water temperature at 50m dive depth. The panel allows diving with air, oxygen and Nitrox. The required adapters, as well as gas analysis are optionally available.

The complete system consists of:

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- 2 x light (AxLIGHT35)
- 1 x Combox with black box recording (AxTALK)
- 2 x HP hose optional up to 30m length
- 2 x LP-hose for oxygen optional up to 30m length
- 2 x Aquavest diver's harness
- 3 x Umbilical configured up to 120m
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IDSA MEMBERSLIST 2022

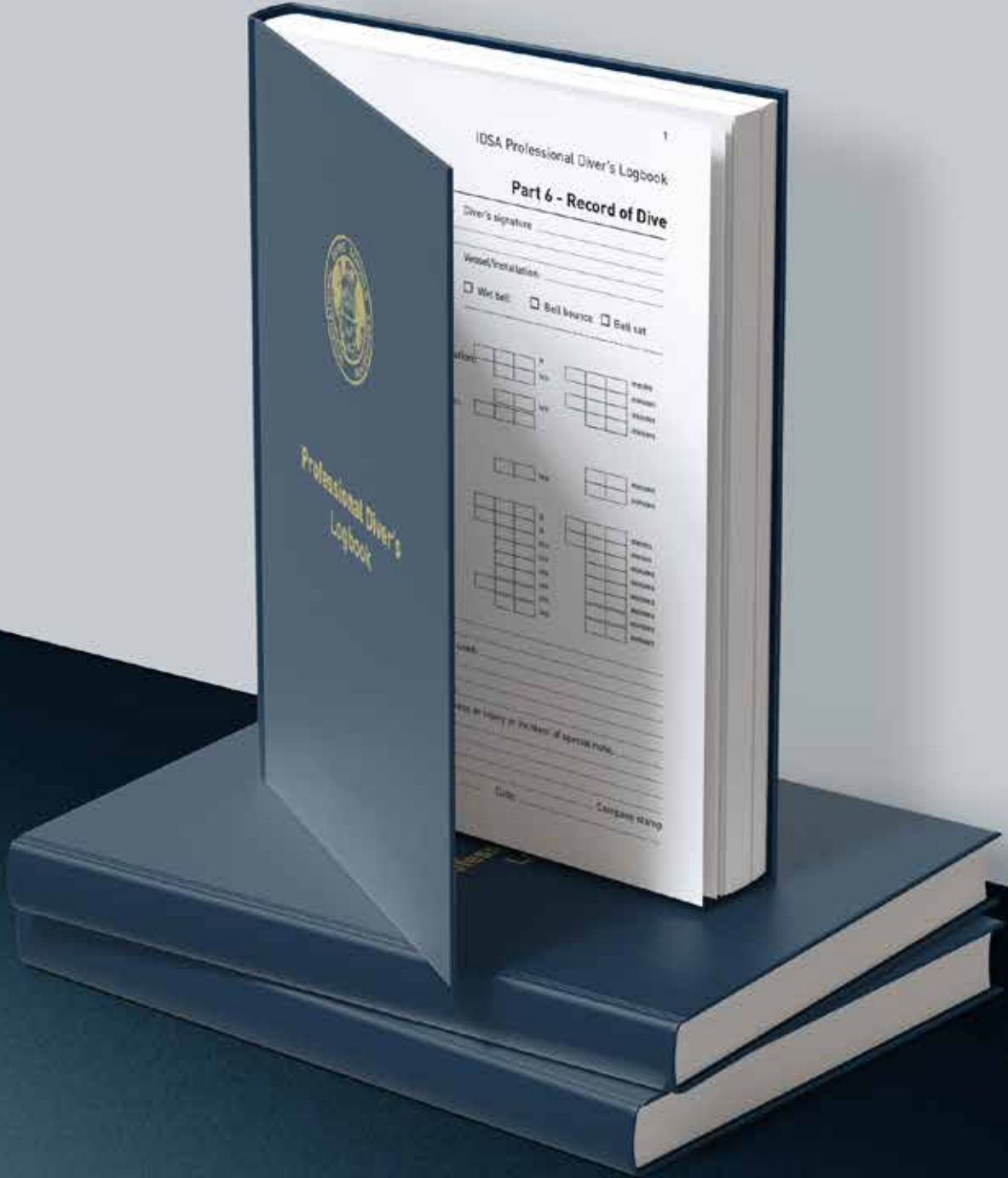
Full Members	Country	IDSA Level
SAB Diving	Belgium	3
Arab Academy for Science Technology & Maritime Transport (AASTMT)	Egypt	2
Egyptian International Diving School (EIDS)	Egypt	3
Middle East for Commercial Diving (MECD)	Egypt	3
Luksia Sukellusala	Finland	3
Ecole Nationale des Scaphandriers (ENS)	France	3
Irish Navy Diving School	Ireland	3
CEDIFOP	Italy	3
Centre Meditteraneen de Plongee Professionnelle(CMPP)	Morocco	3
Foundation NOK (formely NDC)	Netherlands	3
Norwegian Commercial Diving School, Oslo (NYD)	Norway	3
Western Norway University of Applied Sciences, Diver Education (HVL)	Norway	3
KBA Training Center PTE Ltd	Singapore	Specialist Diving Training
Oceanos Escuela de Buceo Profesional SL	Spain	3
Commercial Diving School of Gothenburg (YRGO)	Sweden	3
Swedish Armed Forces Diving & Medical Centre	Sweden	3
Interdive Services	United Kingdom	Specialist Diving Training
JFD-National Hyperbaric Centre	United Kingdom	Specialist Diving Training

Associate Members	Country
Aqua Subsea Diving Services	Dubai UAE
Divetech Underwater Services	Dubai UAE
HHA Diving Services LLC	Dubai UAE
GT Corporation SE	Estonia
Faroe Dive	Faroe Islands
Centre Activities Plongee de Treburden (CAP)	France
Institut National de Plongee Professionnelle (INPP)	France
Atlantis Marine Services	Fujairah UAE
Diver Ltd BÚVÁR KFT	Hungary
Irish Sea Fisheries Board (BIM)	Ireland
Aqaba Beach Academy for Commercial Diving	Jordanië
IDEA Kuwait	Kuwait
Daivtechnoserviss SIA	Latvia
Liepaja Maritime College	Latvia
Instituto de buceo comercial techdiving AC	Mexico
Regional Centre for Underwater Demolition(RCUD)	Montenegro
Nitrox SARL	Morocco
CDP SERVICES, S.A.	Panama
JUST DIVE Blue Academy	Portugal
Gulf Marine Contracting FZE	RAK UAE
Seanergy Indian Ocean	Reunion Island
ISEAS	Sharjah UAE
Dive Marine Services Limited	United Arab Emirates
JVS Diving and Marine Services LLC	United Arab Emirates
Techno Marine Diving Services LLC	United Arab Emirates
Namaka Subsea LTD	United Kingdom
Divers Institute of Technology	USA

Affiliate and Industrial Members	Country
De Zeeman Pro NV	Belgium
Neel Diving Institute	India
Alpe Sub Srl	Italy
Drafinsub S.R.L	Italy
Eprons Ltd	Latvia
Divestuff Ventures	Malaysia
IHC Hytech BV	Netherlands
Norwegian Association of Underwater Entrepreneurs (NBU)	Norway
Deep Dive Est	Saudi Arabia
Aquamont Service	Serbia
Advacotec Ltd	Switzerland

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