

*Richard Larn & Rex Whistler*

# Commercial DIVING Manual

NEW EDITION

The only book to cover the entire  
compulsory national syllabus for HSE Examinations  
in commercial air diving.  
Now completely revised and updated.

Commercial DIVING Manual

*Richard Larn & Rex Whistler*

DAVID &  
CHARLES

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*Richard Larn &  
Rex Whistler*

**SSI** SCUBA SCHOOLS INT.  
® Albrecht Salm  
Instructor No. 12653

*AS*  
*04/2000*

Albrecht Salm  
Master Scuba Diver Trainer  
PADI MSDT # 33913



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DAVID & CHARLES  
Newton Abbot London

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors' extend their recognition, grateful appreciation and thanks to the many individuals, companies and organisations who have contributed of their time, experience, illustrations, material, or permission to reproduce information towards this Commercial Diving Manual.

In particular the office and diving staff of Prodiver Limited, the Commercial Diving Centre in Falmouth Docks, Cornwall; to David Ryeland, its General Manager and previously its Senior Diving Instructor; Tom Norman, Chief Instructor and his instructional staff for their technical advice, suggestions and comments; Dr. Michael Haywood Ph.D. for his NDT. material, Eileen Caton for preparation of much of the draft material, Falmouth Technical College and Mrs. J. Perry, who assisted with the very first edition, and Mrs. Bridget Larn, who has made a considerable contribution towards this 2nd edition.

Acknowledgment is also given to the following manufacturers, diving companies and authors of technical publications, or their publishers, who have given permission to reproduce material or who have made a contribution:

The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office (HMSO) regarding BR2806; the Hydrographer of the Navy; U.S. Navy Department for illustrations and extracts from the US. Navy Diving Manual; the British Sub Aqua Club; John Sinclair and Dive Dynamics Ltd; U.S. Divers; Helle Engineering; Kirby Morgan Inc.; Diving Unlimited; Underwater Instrumentation Ltd; ICI. Nobel Division; N.B. Zinkowski and Cornell Maritime Press, publishers of 'Commercial Oilfield Diving'; W.G. Newberry, and the publishers of 'Handbook for Riggers'; J.Strykowski, 'Divers & Cameras'; D.E. Hewitt, 'Engineering Drawing & Design'; Reed's Nautical Almanac'(1982 edition); Thomas Reed Publications; Consolidated Pneumatics (Gordon Railton & Co.); Harbens Ltd; Tirfor Ltd; Stanley Tools Ltd; 'Artie' Shaw of Plymouth Ocean Projects; Commander S.A. Warner RN(Re'td) ex Chief Inspector of Diving; R.Giles, Chief Inspector of Diving; the Manpower Services Commission, Training Division, for permission to reproduce the original Basic Air Diver Training Standard(1981) and the Safety Policy Division of the Health & Safety Executive, for permission to quote essential details of the revised Training Standard.

Finally, to Roger Parker, Chairman of Prodiver Ltd., with whom we had the great pleasure of working for eleven years, for his support in the concept of this manual.

## Foreword

The concept of a Commercial Diving Manual was born out of a need for a single publication, which embraced all the relevant aspects of basic diving theory and practice, required by those under training to the then new Health and Safety at Work (Diving Operations) Regulations 1981.

There are of course many professional diving manuals and similar publications, but generally speaking, many have a high degree of specialisation, as with the Royal Navy Diving Manual, or the U.S. Navy Diving Manual. Other publications are orientated towards the offshore diving industry, or sport diving for example. Whilst excellent and very necessary in their particular field, no single publication met the needs of a trainee air diver entering the commercial diving world.

Such a manual, totally comprehensive in content for trainees, had been a personal ambition of mine since leaving the Royal Navy as a Chief Petty Officer/Diver in 1971, when working closely with Roger Parker of Partech Electronics Ltd., we started Prodiver Ltd. as a totally commercial diver training establishment. Rapid development in the North Sea oil and gas industries, the introduction of a national standard for Basic Air Diver and Underwater Worker Training, and other legislation regarding diver safety and standards in both training and employment, caused the project to be shelved. In 1980, when Rex Whistler joined our staff direct from the North Sea, initially as the Training Manager and later as a fellow Director, with considerable drive and initiative he compiled the first draft. Its initial printing was a private venture, solely for issue to our own trainee air divers, but soon we were receiving requests from a number of commercial sources to purchase copies in considerable numbers. Hence, this manual in different forms has been in daily use by trainee divers all over the world since 1980, and as a hard back publication by David & Charles plc. since 1984.

British commercial diving standards are now accepted throughout the whole of Europe, and in many other parts of the world, and diver training to HSE. standards is now taking place as far away as the United States of America and Australia. The content of this manual is therefore truly international, and hopefully will be instrumental in raising the standard of diver training in many other countries.