

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Training and certification of
occupational divers**

**Part 6: Restricted occupational SCUBA
diver**

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AS/NZS 2815.6:2013

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Association of Diving Contractors, New Zealand
Australian Council of Trade Unions
Australian Diver Accreditation Scheme
Australian Diving Contractors Association
Australian Marine Sciences Association
Australian Medical Association
CSIRO Marine and Atmospheric Research
Department of Defence, Australia
International Marine Contractors Association
Maritime Union of Australia
National Association of Occupational Diver Training Establishments
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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee SF-017, Occupational Diving, as a new Part to the AS and AS/NZS 2815 series.

The Standard is Part 6 of a series of Standards on the training and certification of underwater divers, where the requirements of regulatory authorities and industry demand a prescribed degree of training and competence to ensure an adequate degree of safety, performance and economy.

The objective of this Standard is to provide regulatory authorities, training providers and trainees with the content of a training course for imparting minimum levels of competency to trainee restricted occupational SCUBA divers, and assessment procedures.

This Standard is particularly related to (but not restricted to) the training of personnel who will be engaged in underwater operations as described in AS/NZS 2299.2, *Occupational diving operations*, Part 2: *Scientific diving*.

This Standard also provides guidance and allows for certified divers to undertake EAN training as a standalone addition to restricted occupational diver training which was previously undertaken.

The task training set out in the units of this Standard will provide the trainee with a general appreciation of the techniques and problems involved in carrying out the specified underwater work. For the diver to be considered a competent underwater worker, it will generally be necessary for further specialist training to be undertaken.

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SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE

This Standard specifies the training activities and competencies required for the training and certification of divers to work safely and competently at a limited range of underwater tasks as members of an occupational diving team using self-contained underwater breathing apparatus (SCUBA) (see Notes).

The qualification in this Standard is intended to be the minimum qualification for occupational SCUBA diving but is not intended to equip occupational divers who may be engaged in more demanding tasks and environments, such as within the construction industry, military, police or emergency services (see Notes).

Environmental working conditions for restricted occupational SCUBA divers should be limited to reasonably controlled environments that involve direct access to the surface, no planned decompression and minimal risk of underwater entrapment or unplanned decompression.

Requirements and guidance for providers of restricted occupational SCUBA diver training are given in Section 4.

NOTES:

- 1 Many occupational diving operations will require additional underwater work skills to those listed in this Standard. Training and certification for occupational SCUBA divers who can undertake a wider range of underwater tasks is covered in AS 2815.1.
- 2 Attention is drawn to the requirements of AS/NZS 2299.1, AS/NZS 2299.2 and of regulatory authorities which may limit the depths and times of diving with no compression chamber facilities.
- 3 For the purposes of this Standard, only open-circuit scuba is considered either using air or enriched air nitrox. This Standard is not intended to train divers in the use of closed circuit or rebreather diving systems.
- 4 This Standard is not intended to train divers for surface supply diving, construction diving or diving in hazardous diving conditions. Hazardous diving conditions include the following:
 - (a) Risk of entanglement – diving in and around nets and cages, multiple ropes and lines, tree branches, man-made underwater structures such as shipwrecks, sunken vehicles, or other sunken material.
 - (b) Diving in an overhead environment, without vertical access to the surface.
 - (c) Highly limited or zero visibility.
 - (d) Work near outflow or inflow to pipes.
 - (e) Diving in currents or fast flowing creeks, rivers and drains.
 - (f) Diving associated with setting of weights or moorings or use of lifting devices for anything other than fish or shellfish.
 - (g) Work in high boat traffic areas such as navigation channels, entries to marinas, operational ports.
 - (h) Use of plant powered from the surface.