
**Recreational diving services —
Requirements for introductory
programmes to scuba diving**

*Services relatifs à la plongée de loisirs — Exigences pour les
programmes d'initiation à la plongée subaquatique*

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ISO copyright office
Ch. de Blandonnet 8 • CP 401
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva, Switzerland
Tel. +41 22 749 01 11
Fax +41 22 749 09 47
copyright@iso.org
www.iso.org

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html. (standards.iteh.ai)

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 228, *Tourism and related services*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 11121:2009), which has been technically revised.

Introduction

The programme specified in this document is used to introduce a non-diver to recreational scuba diving by means of a supervised, controlled dive experience and to encourage the participant to seek further training.

The introductory diving programme does not result in any qualification, but is experiential in nature; consequently, in-depth knowledge of diving academics and skills is not necessary. Participants are taught only what is required of them to experience scuba diving under direct supervision of a scuba instructor.

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Recreational diving services — Requirements for introductory programmes to scuba diving

1 Scope

This document specifies minimum programme content requirements for training organizations for introductory scuba experiences in recreational scuba diving. Under no conditions are these requirements considered to be a standard for the training and qualification of scuba divers.

This document applies to programmes that include participants being taken into an open water environment. It does not apply to programmes that are exclusively conducted in a confined water environment (e.g. swimming pools).

This document also specifies the conditions under which this service is to be provided, which supplement the general requirements for recreational diving services specified in ISO 24803.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 24801-3:2014, *Recreational diving services — Requirements for the training of recreational scuba divers — Part 3: Level 3 — Dive leader*

ISO 24802-2, *Recreational diving services — Requirements for the training of scuba instructors — Part 2: Level 2*

ISO 24803, *Recreational diving services — Requirements for recreational scuba diving service providers*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

training organization

entity providing training systems and issuing qualifications for recreational diving, and which is responsible for the implementation and quality management of training

3.2

scuba instructor

individual qualified in accordance with ISO 24802-1 or ISO 24802-2 respectively

3.3

dive leader

individual qualified in accordance with ISO 24801-3

3.4 participant

individual who takes part in a scuba diving experience in open water by making introductory scuba dives, and who does not receive a diving qualification

3.5 confined water

swimming pool with a depth appropriate to the activity or body of water that offers similar conditions with regard to visibility, depth, water movement and access

3.6 open water

body of water significantly larger than a swimming pool offering conditions typical of a natural body of water

3.7 direct supervision

supervision by a scuba instructor or a dive leader of a group of divers in a position allowing rapid intervention on behalf of the diver

3.8 diving equipment

equipment consisting of fins, mask, snorkel, demand regulator, alternative breathing gas system, cylinder, cylinder support system, buoyancy compensator, a quick-release weight system (when weights are needed), submersible pressure gauge, means to measure depth and time and to safely limit exposure to inert gas and diving suit (if appropriate)

Note 1 to entry: A demand regulator can also be referred to as a regulator.

Note 2 to entry: An alternative breathing gas system could range from a simple octopus system to a duplicate breathing system with a separate breathing gas supply.

Note 3 to entry: A submersible pressure gauge can be a breathing gas pressure monitor.

Note 4 to entry: Specific environments or activities can require additional equipment (e.g. an underwater navigational aid, knife/cutting device).

4 Competences

The programme shall ensure that participants are enabled to participate safely in an introductory open water dive under the supervision of a scuba instructor according to ISO 24802-2. At the scuba instructor's discretion, the participant may then take part in subsequent introductory dives in accordance with this document under the direct supervision of a dive leader qualified in accordance with ISO 24801-3:2014, Annex A.

The completion of the programme in accordance with this document does not qualify the participants to procure breathing gas, diving equipment, or any other scuba diving services, nor does it allow the participant to engage in recreational diving without direct supervision by a scuba instructor or a dive leader.

5 Prerequisites for participation

5.1 Minors

Documented parental or legal guardian consent shall be obtained when the participant is a minor.

5.2 Health requirements

Documented evidence that the participant has been medically screened as suitable for recreational diving shall be obtained by means of an appropriate questionnaire or medical examination. In case of doubt, or at the scuba instructor's discretion, participants shall be referred to proper medical resources. If the participant is not examined by a physician, the participant shall be obliged to confirm by signature that he or she has understood the written information given by the scuba instructor on diseases and physical conditions which may pose risks in relation to diving.

NOTE [Annex A](#) provides an example of an information sheet for medical screening.

6 Introductory information

Information in accordance with ISO 24803 shall be made available to the participants prior to the programme taking place. In addition, participants shall be informed that the completion of a programme in accordance with this document does not qualify the participants to procure breathing gas, diving equipment or any other scuba diving services, nor does it allow the participant to engage in recreational diving without direct supervision.

7 Knowledge

7.1 Equipment

The programme shall ensure that participants have appropriate introductory knowledge on the use of the following equipment items:

- a) mask;
- b) fins; <https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/5ed022ba-7997-4821-9d56-cb9d6c97d4fc/iso-11121-2017>
- c) buoyancy compensator; <https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/5ed022ba-7997-4821-9d56-cb9d6c97d4fc/iso-11121-2017>
- d) a quick-release weight system (when weights are needed);
- e) demand regulator;
- f) submersible pressure gauge (breathing gas pressure monitor);
- g) alternative breathing gas system.

7.2 Dive conduct

The programme shall ensure that participants have appropriate introductory knowledge on diving and the diving environment, i.e.:

- a) reasons for:
 - not holding one's breath;
 - breathing continuously during the introductory dive;
 - ascending slowly;
- b) equalization techniques,
- c) potential local hazards (e.g. harmful aquatic life);
- d) hand signals;
- e) the necessity for seeking further training and where to obtain it.