

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

# COMMANDER NAVAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMAND 250 DALLAS STREET PENSACOLA, FLORIDA 32508-5220

NETCINST 3150.1A N00X 14 Nov 2024

## NETC INSTRUCTION 3150.1A

From: Commander, Naval Education and Training Command

Subj: NAVAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMAND DIVING POLICY

Ref:

- (a) OPNAVINST 3150.27D
- (b) SS521-AG-PRO-010, U.S. Navy Diving Manual of 1 December 2016
- (c) NETCINST 1500.5E
- (d) MILPERSMAN 7220-090
- 1. <u>Purpose</u>. To establish amplifying Naval Education and Training Command (NETC) Diving and Diving Operational Readiness Inspections (DORI) policy required by reference (a). The DORI provides a critical verification of operational proficiency and compliance with technical requirements, approved procedures, and diving policy.
- 2. Cancellation. NETCINST 3150.1.
- 3. <u>Scope</u>. This instruction applies to NETC, Center for Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Diving (CENEODDIVE), Submarine Learning Center (SUBLEARNCEN), Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center (NAVDIVESALVTRACEN), Naval School Explosive Ordnance Disposal (NAVSCOLEOD), and Naval Submarine School (NAVSUBSCOL).

## 4. Policy

- a. Diving Policy
- (1) NAVDIVESALVTRACEN, NAVSCOLEOD, and NAVSUBSCOL are authorized to conduct manned diving operations.
- (2) All diving and associated support operations must be administered, planned, and conducted per references (a) and (b) and this instruction.
- (3) Approved diving activities shall complete an annual preventive maintenance system (PMS) program self-assessment no later than 90 days prior to DORI commencement.

- (4) NETC serves as the approval authority for Navy dives conducted using non-certified or non-authorized for Navy use (ANU) life support equipment per reference (a).
- (a) The first O-6 level commander in the chain of command serves as the approval authority for mission essential Navy dives which deviate from established procedures or doctrine, use of non-Navy certified recompression chambers for level 1 and level 2 support, interoperability dives, exceptions to personnel qualification, and attending non-mission essential training or civilian dive schools which deviate from established curricula. A Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) code OOC risk assessment must be conducted and included with all initial waiver requests as specified in reference (a). A copy of this approval letter must be forwarded to NETC and Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) N97.
- (b) O-5 level commanding officers may serve as the approval authority for deviation from established procedures during contingencies, use commercially procured air or non-ANU cylinders that meet the requirements outlined in reference (b), mission essential dives that exceed diving system normal working limits, and authorize the use of non-Navy certified recompression chambers for level III chamber support per reference (a). The first O-6 level commander must be informed as soon as possible, and a copy of the approval letter must be forwarded to NETC and OPNAV N97.

## b. DORI Policy

- (1) Recent changes to Navy diving policy have necessitated that NETC develop amplifying policy concerning the conduct of DORIs.
- (2) NETC does not possess the expertise to staff or conduct DORIs on subordinate activities that have diving capabilities. As required by reference (a), NETC authorizes the SUBLEARNCEN and CENEODDIVE to conduct DORIs of their subordinate activities. If either learning center (LC) is unable to conduct a DORI due to lack of experienced staff, limited manpower availability, excess travel cost, or imposed restrictions, etc., the LC must develop a memorandum of agreement with an outside activity to conduct the DORI on a recurring basis or via formal letter for a single DORI.

- (3) The subordinate NETC commands to receive DORIs by their immediate superior in command (ISIC), and authorized to conduct diving operations, are NAVDIVESALVTRACEN, NAVSCOLEOD, and NAVSUBSCOL.
- (4) The DORI must be conducted on a revolving basis at specified intervals based on completion of required DORI and the Naval Safety Center conducted diving safety assessment (DSA) events. Normal DORI periodicity is 36 months (not to exceed 42 months) provided a DSA has been accomplished within the prescribed limits. The DSA must be conducted between 15 and 21 months of the activity's last DORI. With LC concurrence, an activity may waive the DSA requirement if the DORI or equivalent LC inspection periodicity does not exceed 21 months.
- (5) The DORI must be conducted per reference (a), and must cover the areas listed in Chapter 7, subparagraphs 2k(1) through 2k(5) of reference (a), specifically: administration, training, medical review of diving personnel, diving operations level of knowledge, and diving operations. LCs will utilize NAVSEA checklists as the baseline for the DORI and will develop and formally approve additional DORI checklists in alignment with the scope of subordinate learning site's (LS) diving mission. NAVSEA checklists can be found at: <a href="https://secure.supsalv.org">https://secure.supsalv.org</a>. Select the "00C3 Diving" link at top of page and various checklists will be listed. Select the appropriate checklist(s) for the activity being inspected.
- (6) Any existing individual program (e.g., PMS, quality assurance (QA), operational risk management, etc.) that have recently received a satisfactory inspection conducted by either NETC or the LC are exempt from the DORI or may undergo a reduced inspection requirement. The DORI should focus on the execution of diving operations vice redundant inspections of areas that have recently received a satisfactory inspection.
- (7) The DORI team, at a minimum, will consist of a diving officer (designator 7201) or diving qualified officer (designator 1140, 1440, 5100, 6480, or 6530), master diver (MDV), and an underwater medical officer (UMO) (16U0 or 16U1). In the event a UMO is unavailable, the medical program inspection can be performed by an E-7 or above deep-sea diving independent duty corpsman (NEC L28A). Additional inspection team members may be added to assist per reference (a).

- (8) The activity conducting the DORI will provide the inspected activity with written results. The inspected activity will develop a written plan of action and milestones (POA&M) to correct any deficiencies and provide it to the activity conducting the DORI within 30 days of receipt of the results letter. Quarterly updates will be provided until all deficiencies are corrected. The LC and LSs will maintain DORI records for the last two DORIs.
- (9) Inspection criteria, notifications, reports, and applicable timelines must be conducted per reference (a) and clearly identified in the DORI precept provided to the activity being inspected. The LS must formally communicate the post-DORI corrective actions to the appropriate LC.

# 5. Roles and Responsibilities

### a. NETC NOOX

- (1) Provide amplifying diving safety policy.
- (2) Ensure all NETC commands that conduct diving operations receive DORI and DSAs per reference (a).
- (3) Ensure diving commands undergo a QA Safety Program review every 3 years as per reference (a).

## b. NETC N7

- (1) Monitor the quality of curriculum, instruction, and evaluation functions of CENEODDIVE.
- (2) Develop and publish personnel qualification requirements for divers.
- (3) Provide CENDEODDIVE with guidance and assistance in the preparation, coordination, monitoring, review, and revision of programs of instruction.
- (4) Establish and administer basic, advanced, and specialized diver training.
- (5) Establish, publish, and maintain personnel qualification standards for divers.

### c. CENEODDIVE and SUBLEARNCEN

- (1) Comply with reference (a) and this instruction.
- (2) Establish pass or fail criteria for the DORI. Due to the extensive instructor qualification and evaluation processes, SUBLEARNCEN and CENEODDIVE have the authority to substitute the separate testing and interview portions of the DORI with results of instructor qualification, individual development plan, and periodic evaluations. However, the instructor qualification process must include requirements for prospective instructors to take written tests of curricula materials. If this option is elected, then results of any testing must be kept in the instructor training jacket.
- (3) Communicate new or revised policy and guidance to subordinate activities.
- (4) Provide funding for dive-qualified personnel continuing education, if required.
- (5) Establish amplifying policy and execute program oversight per reference (a).
- (a) Establish policy for monitoring diving proficiency. For all diving personnel ordered to duties performing diving instruction, one means of verifying diving proficiency is to ensure compliance with reference (c).
- (b) Establish policy covering maintaining diving currency. For diving personnel acting in a dive supervisory role, proficiency must be maintained by supervising no less than two dives annually. Additionally, all dive currency requalification requirements must be maintained per reference (d). For diving personnel performing instructor duties not involving diving as a primary duty, proficiency must be maintained per diving currency requalification requirements stated in reference (d).
- (c) Establish policy for diver-continued-training and establishing processes and tools that foster a culture of learning. It is the responsibility of all personnel assigned to diving duty as a primary duty to maintain an adequate level of knowledge sufficient to accomplish their duties and

responsibilities. This continued training may take the form of command specific diver training (short- and long-range training plans) instructor training and qualification processes and local diving systems and diving watch-station qualifications.

- (d) Establish policy on collecting; assessing; and publishing of diving lessons learned, best practices, and commonly noted discrepancies identified through the process of inspections, assessments, and reviews of diving programs and equipment. This information must be continuously integrated into diver training plans and be readily available to any fleet diving activity upon request. This document must be published annually.
- (6) Provide final determination of any requests for waiving a DSA submitted by subordinate activities and forward a copy to NETC NOOX.
- (7) Provide NETC NOOX with a copy of all correspondence concerning DORI scheduling, results, and POA&M.
  - d. NAVSCOLEOD, NAVDIVESALVTRACEN, and NAVSUBSCOL
- (1) Comply with applicable requirements contained in reference (a).
  - (2) Forward any request to waive the DSA to your ISIC.
- (3) Establish comprehensive training plans, tailored to the unit's mission, outlined in short and long ranges, and approved by the diving officer, in writing, to ensure all divequalified personnel maintain the requisite level of knowledge. Training plans must include diving advisories, diving safety lines, DORI and QA surveillance plan findings, mishap reports, emergency drills or scenarios, and methods of assessing knowledge and skill retention on a recurring basis. Proficiency in core skills related to the application of organic diving capabilities and the unit's assigned mission are critical elements that must be incorporated and refined on a continual basis. Training plans and associated records must be available for inspection.
- (4) Ensure all diving supervisors supervise no less than two dives annually. Diving officers and MDVs qualified as

diving supervisors may maintain proficiency through direct engagement in dive station casualty drills, curriculum development, classroom instruction, practical events, MDV candidate prescreening and evaluation, advisory team meetings, and the military diver training continuum (MDTC). Additionally, all qualified divers must maintain currency per reference (a).

- (5) Issue letters of designation to all qualified diving supervisors, including diving officers and MDVs. These letters must specify applicable constraints and restraints derived from the command dive bill or instruction, the mode, or modes, of diving the individual is authorized to supervise. Letters of designation must be available for inspection.
- (6) Facilitate the continuing education and development of all dive-qualified personnel through formal courses of instruction, workshop attendance, on-the-job training, and credentialing. Authorized training includes, but is not limited to, MDTC attendance as well as first class diver and MDV course enrollment.
- (7) Ensure mishap reports, advisories, and other lessons learned are catalogued, reviewed by all qualified divers, incorporated into training plans, and available for inspection.
- (8) Ensure the on-time scheduling and execution of DSA, per reference (a).
- (9) Develop a command dive bill or instruction that contains the elements of chapter 4 of reference (a).
- (10) Submit any diving related waivers to the cognizant authority as delineated in chapter 5 of reference (a).

## 6. Records Management

a. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of format or media, must be maintained and dispositioned per the records disposition schedules located on the Department of the Navy Assistant for Administration, Directives and Records Management Division portal page at <a href="https://portal.secnav.navy.mil/orgs/DUSNM/DONAA/DRM/Records-and-Information-Management/Approved%20Record%20Schedules/Forms/AllItems.aspx">https://portal.secnav.navy.mil/orgs/DUSNM/DONAA/DRM/Records-and-Information-Management/Approved%20Record%20Schedules/Forms/AllItems.aspx</a>.

- b. For questions concerning the management of records related to this instruction or the records disposition schedules, please contact the local records manager.
- 7. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215.17A, NETC will review this instruction annually around the anniversary of its issuance date to ensure applicability, currency, and consistency with Federal, Department of Defense, Secretary of the Navy, and Navy policy and statutory authority using OPNAV 5215/40 (Review of Instruction). This instruction will be in effect for 10 years, unless revised or cancelled in the interim, and will be reissued by the 10-year anniversary date if it is still required, unless it meets one of the exceptions in OPNAVINST 5215.17A, paragraph 9. Otherwise, if the instruction is no longer required, it will be processed for cancellation as soon as the need for cancellation is known following the guidance in OPNAV Manual (215) 1 of May 2016.

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Releasability and distribution:
This instruction is cleared for public release and is available electronically on the NETC public web site (www.netc.navy.mil) or by e-mail at netc-directives@us.navy.mil.