

News from DMAC – the Diving Medical Advisory Committee

Dr Olav Sande Eftedal, Chairman

Bergen International Diving Seminar

NOVEMBER 2019

DMAC

Diving Medical Advisory Committee

- The Committee is an independent network of diving physicians with a particular interest in, and experience from, commercial diving operations
- The main areas of focus are:
 - diving occupational medicine;
 - the preservation of divers' health and safety;
 - the quality of diving physician training;
 - acting as medical advisory body to the commercial diving industry
- Members of the Committee receive no payment for their time the work of the committee is voluntary
- The Committee meets 2-3 times per year



History

- Founded December 1975 (?) as a forum for communication between responsible parties in establishing an effective medical service for North Sea occupational divers (UK and Norway)
- DMAC received organisational support from AODC (later IMCA), but was founded as an independent organisation
- Some important topics covered by the Committee in the early years
 - workshop on the in-water hazards of cold stress
 - hazards of exposure to chemicals at pressure
 - prevention of ear infections in saturation diving
 - applying relevant parts of US Navy Diving Manual to commercial diving
 - hyperbaric evacuation of divers in saturation
 - maximum safe oxygen level for nitrox diving



Approximately 25 active members from Europe, US, Far East and Australia:

- doctors professionally involved in the practice of commercial diving medicine;
- representatives from relevant regulatory authorities;
- medical representatives from navies with relevant expertise;
- a medical representative of the European Diving Technology Committee (EDTC);
- a diving industry representative nominated by the International Marine Contractors Association (IMCA)

The secretarial function is provided for by IMCA

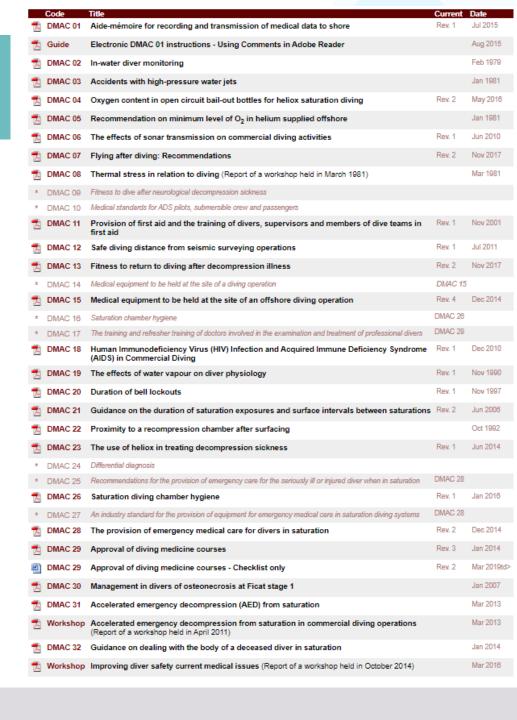
DMAC Members

The following is a list of DMAC's current members and their affiliations.

- Chairman: Dr Olav Sande Eftedal Equinor (Norway)
- Vice-Chairman: Dr Pieter-Jan van Ooij Royal Dutch Navy (Netherlands)
- Lt (DMO) Francesca Bevilacqua Italian Navy(Italy)
- Dr Marc Borgnetta Institut National de Plongée Professionnelle (France)
- Dr Alan Bray South West Independent Medical Services (UK)
- Dr Alf O Brubakk University of Trondheim (Norway)
- Dr Phil Bryson International SOS (UK)
- Dr Steve Forman Health & Safety Executive, Merseyside (UK)
- Dr John Hjelle Mediteam, Stavanger (Norway)
- Dr Bård Humborstad Repsol, Stavanger (Norway)
- Dr James Wilbert Johnson Igarus (UK)
- Dr Pasquale Longobardi Centro Iperbarico (Italy)
- Dr Jean Yves Massimelli Flash Tekk Engineering Pte Ltd (Singapore)
- . Dr WAJ (Jack) Meintjes University of Stellenbosch (South Africa)
- Dr lan Millar (Australia)
- Dr Stein Modahl Inco AS (Norway)
- Professor Graham Page Aberdeen Royal Infirmary (UK)
- Surgeon Cdr Simon Phillips Royal Navy, Alverstoke (UK)
- Dr Jan Risberg NUI (Norwegian Underwater Intervention), Bergen (Norway)
- Cdr Anne (Brye) Roberts United States Navy Underwater Medical Officer, Royal Navy, Alverstoke (UK)
- Mr Steve Sheppard Helix Energy Solutions Group/IMCA (UK)
- Dr Ruth Stephenson Aberdeen Royal Infirmary Hyperbaric Unit (UK)
- Dr Maarten van Kets Integrated Occupational Medicine Ltd (UK)
- Dr Roland vanden Eede Mensura EDPB/Mensura SEPP (Belgium)
- Dr Stephen Watt (retired) (UK)
- Dr Jürg Wendling (Switzerland)
- Secretary: Bryan McGlinchy, IMCA

DMAC guidance notes:

- Currently 24 documents providing guidance in matters related to diving medicine and physiology for commercial diving
- New guidance notes and revision of existing notes is initiated based on input from the diving industry and Committee members







DMAC guidance notes:

 The documents are published as a guidance for the industry and are not meant to be used as industry standard

8.1.3	Surface-supplied offshore gas and oil diving
	The following industry guidance documents shall be followed when
	planning and conducting surface-supplied diving operations in
	support of gas and oil operations in waters regulated by the National
	Energy Board (NEB), Canadian Newfoundland Labrador Offshore
	Petroleum Board (CNLOPB), or the Canadian Nova Scotia Offshore
	Petroleum Board (CNSOPB):
	a) International Marine Contractors Association (IMCA) Guidance
	Notes:
	1 DESIGN D 023 — Surface Supplied (Air) Diving Systems;
	2 DESIGN D 040 — Mobile/Portable Surface Supplied Systems; and
	3 DESIGN D 048 — Surface Supplied Diving Operations using Nitrox;
	b) International Marine Contractors Association (IMCA) — Safety
	Notices;
	c) United Kingdom Health and Safety Executive (HSE), Offshore
	Safety Division — Operations and Safety Notices;
	 d) Diving Medical Advisory Council (DMAC) — Guidance Notes;



CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF DIVING CONTRACTORS
DIVE OPERATIONS SELF – AUDIT FORM
PUBLIC DOMAIN RELEASE
(Version Control # CSA-SA2016.04)



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Approval of Diving Medicine Courses

DMAC 29 Rev. 3 - March 2019

Supersedes DMAC 29 Rev.2, which is now withdrawn

- DMAC 29 contains requirements for diving medicine courses to be approved by DMAC/EDTCmed
 - Level 1 Medical assessment of divers (Medical Examiner of Divers)
 - Level 2D Medical management of diving accidents and illnesses (Diving Medical Physician)
- Revised March 2019 to include computer based training



Safe Diving Distance from Seismic Surveying Operations

DMAC 12 Rev. 2 - October 2019

Supersedes DMAC 12 Rev 1 which is now withdrawn

- Where diving and seismic activity are scheduled to occur within a distance of 45km (28 miles), it would be good practice for all parties to be made aware of the planned activity where practicable
- Where diving and seismic activity will occur within a distance of 30km (18.6 miles) a joint risk assessment should be conducted, between the clients/operators involved and the seismic and diving contractors
- Links to databases for seismic operations included: the UK Kingfisher Bulletin and the Norway SAM-X database



Other DMAC guidance documents that have been updated recently are

- DMAC 07 Flying after Diving: Recommendations (2017)
- DMAC 13 Fitness to Return to Diving after Decompression Illness (2017)



Medical Equipment to be Held at the Site of an Offshore Diving Operation

DMAC 15 Rev. 4 - December 2014

Supersedes DMAC 15, DMAC 15 Rev. 1, Rev. 2 and Rev. 3, which are now withdrawn

DMAC 15 is under revision



The Provision of Emergency Medical Care for Divers in Saturation

DMAC 28 Rev. 2 - December 2014

Supersedes DMAC 28 and DMAC 28 Rev. I, which are now withdrawn DMAC 28 also superseded DMAC 25 and DMAC 27.

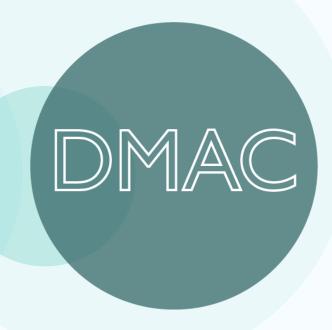
DMAC 28 is under revision



• All DMAC guidance documents and the list of DMAC/EDTC-approved courses available at

http://dmac-diving.org/





International Marine Contractors Association

Improving performance in the marine contracting industry

www.imca-int.com

The Diving Medical Advisory Committee

www.dmac-diving.org