

AS 2815.1:2021



STANDARDS  
Australia



# Training and certification of occupational divers

## Part 1: Occupational SCUBA diver



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AS 2815.1:2021

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The following are represented on Committee SF-017:

- Australasian Institute for Maritime Archaeology
- Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU)
- Australian Diver Accreditation Scheme
- Australian Marine Sciences Association
- Australian Medical Association
- Better Regulation Division (Fair Trading, SafeWork NSW, TestSafe)
- Department of Defence (Australian Government)
- Flinders University
- Maritime Union of Australia
- National Association of Occupational Diver Training Establishments
- NSW Police Force
- Victoria Police
- Zoo and Aquarium Association

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# **Training and certification of occupational divers**

## **Part 1: Occupational SCUBA diver**

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## Preface

This Standard was prepared by the Australian members of Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee SF-017, Occupational Diving, to supersede AS 2815.1—2008, *Training and certification of occupational divers, Part 1: Occupational SCUBA diver—Standard*.

After consultation with stakeholders in both countries, Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand decided to develop this document as an Australian Standard rather than an Australian/New Zealand Standard.

The inclusion of roles and responsibilities in AS 2815.1:2021, was approved by the Standards Development and Accreditation Committee on 6 August 2020, as a one-off exemption to the directives of Standardization Guide 006, Section 35.

The objective of this document is to provide regulatory authorities, training providers and trainees with a summary of the minimum competencies for an occupational self-contained underwater breathing apparatus (SCUBA) diver; the minimum content of a training course for imparting these competencies to trainee occupational SCUBA divers; and assessment procedures.

The task training set out in the units of this document 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.

This document is particularly relevant to the training of personnel who will be engaged in underwater operations as described in the AS/NZS 2299 series on occupational diving operations.

The document is Part 1 of a series of Standards relevant to 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 major changes for this edition are to —

- (a) set out the units in a competency-based format; and
- (b) include optional competencies for training in the use of enriched air nitrox (EAN) techniques and use of a dry suit.

Controlled Waters occupational SCUBA diver certification has been included within this document and is intended for divers undertaking occupational diving operations in controlled environments only, such as aquariums, animal enclosures or swimming pools.

This document separates equipment competencies into general SCUBA equipment and a new unit specifically addressing the use and maintenance of compressors. The use and maintenance of compressors unit is not mandatory for Controlled Waters occupational SCUBA diver certification.

This document also provides guidance allowing for certified divers to undertake EAN or dry suit training as standalone units in addition to previously undertaken SCUBA training.

# Contents

<b>Preface</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>Section 1 Scope and general</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Scope	1
1.2 Application	2
1.2.1 General	2
1.2.2 Certification	2
1.2.3 Qualification	3
1.3 Normative references	3
1.4 Terms and definitions	3
1.5 Purpose	6
1.6 Trainee application criteria	6
<b>Section 2 Training course content</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Section 3 Units of competency</b>	<b>10</b>
3.1 Unit 1 — Role of the occupational diver	10
3.1.1 General	10
3.1.2 Unit of competency, elements and performance criteria	10
3.2 Unit 2 — Anatomy, physiology and diving physics	10
3.2.1 General	10
3.2.2 Unit of competency, elements and performance criteria	10
3.3 Unit 3 — Health and safety in diving operations	12
3.3.1 General	12
3.3.2 Unit of competency, elements and performance criteria	13
3.4 Unit 4 — Diving first aid	13
3.4.1 General	13
3.4.2 Unit of competency, elements and performance criteria	13
3.5 Unit 5 — Effective working relationships	15
3.5.1 General	15
3.5.2 Unit of competency, elements and performance criteria	15
3.6 Unit 6 — Emergency procedures	16
3.6.1 General	16
3.6.2 Unit of competency, elements and performance criteria	16
3.7 Unit 7 — SCUBA equipment	17
3.7.1 General	17
3.7.2 Unit of competency, elements and performance criteria	17
3.8 Unit 8 — Pre-dive preparations	18
3.8.1 General	18
3.8.2 Unit of competency, elements and performance criteria	19
3.9 Unit 9 — Underwater deployment	20
3.9.1 General	20
3.9.2 Unit of competency, elements and performance criteria	20
3.9.3 Dive requirements	20
3.9.4 Training dives	21
3.10 Unit 10 — Post-dive procedures	23
3.10.1 General	23
3.10.2 Unit of competency, elements and performance criteria	23
3.11 Unit 11 — Diving work tasks	24
3.11.1 General	24
3.11.2 Unit of competency, elements and performance criteria	24
3.12 Unit 12 — Compressor use and maintenance	26
3.12.1 General	26
3.12.2 Unit of competency, elements and performance criteria	26
3.13 Unit 13 — Using dry suits	27
3.13.1 General	27
3.13.2 Unit of competency, elements and performance criteria	27