

WARNING!

Deep diving exposes the diver to certain risks that are unique to this type of diving. On deep dives, the diver will consume his breathing gas at a faster rate, and has less time to spend at depth before decompression stops become a necessity.

Improperly executed deep dives expose the diver to greater risks of out-of-air emergencies, hypothermia, nitrogen narcosis, and decompression sickness. Out-of-air emergencies during any dive can lead to drowning and lung over-pressure injuries, but on a deep dive they greatly increase the diver's chances of suffering from decompression sickness if the diver is forced to make a rapid ascent.

Hypothermia can lead to the inability to function properly during the dive causing drowning and can also increase the chances of decompression sickness. Nitrogen narcosis can decrease the diver's ability to function properly at depth leading to drowning, out-of-air emergencies, and increased susceptibility to decompression sickness.

Decompression sickness can have both short term and permanent effects. These effects include, but are not limited to, loss of balance, loss of speech or hearing, paralysis, numbness, loss of bladder or bowel control, loss of sexual function, and difficulty in breathing. In severe cases of decompression sickness, death has resulted.

Even a properly executed deep dive can have unexpected consequences and there is always the chance that events beyond your control can lead to injuries or death when you are in the water. All diving presents some risk.

Dive computers have given divers tremendous freedom in making deep and repetitive dives, but like all electro-mechanical devices, they can fail unexpectedly. Even with proper use and without computer failure, there is still the small but real chance that you can suffer decompression sickness while using a dive computer. The same risks apply when using decompression tables or other decompression calculators.

This book has been written and designed to provide supplementary information for a course on deep diving using dive computers. It cannot provide sufficient information or experience by itself to enable you to participate in deep diving. Only through the use of proper equipment that has been maintained correctly, with training under the guidance of a qualified instructor, and continued practice, can you effectively participate in deep diving.

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Other Titles Available from Scuba Diving International

Training Manual for Scuba Diving: Dive Training for the 21st Century

Easy Nitrox Diving

Night Diving, Underwater Navigation, and Limited Visibility Diving Techniques

Wreck Diving and Boat Diving Techniques

Rescue Diving Manual: A Guide to Rescue Techniques, Stress, Injury, and Accident Management

Dry Suit Diving

Solo Diving Techniques: A Manual for Independent Diving Skills

Visual Inspection Procedures: A Manual for Cylinder Safety

CPROX: Guidelines for Essential CPR and Oxygen Administration

CPR-FIRST: A Concise Manual for Emergency First Aid and CPR

Other Titles Available from Technical Diving International

Nitrox Diver Manual

Advanced Nitrox Diver Manual

Decompression Procedures

Semi-Closed Circuit Rebreather Manual: Draeger Units

Trimix Diving Manual

Extended Range Diver Manual

Cave and Cavern Diving Manual

Advanced Wreck Diving

Deep Diving: An Advanced Guide to Physiology, Procedures, and Systems

Nitrox Blending Manual: Guide to Preparation of Oxygen Enriched Air

Advanced Gas Blending Manual: Nitrox, Trimix, and Custom Mixes