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Contents

<i>No.</i>		<i>Gazette No.</i>	<i>Page No.</i>
GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS			
Employment and Labour, Department of / Indiensneming en Arbeid, Departement van			
R. 2692	Occupational Health and Safety Act (85/1993): Amendments to the Commercial Diving Regulations	47413	3
R. 2693	Occupational Health and Safety Act (85/1993): Amendments to the Regulations for Hazardous Biological Agents	47413	6

GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

Department of Employment and Labour

NO. R. 2692

31 October 2022

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT, 1993

I **THEMBELANI WALTERMADE NXESI**, Minister of Employment and Labour hereby, under section 43 of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act No. 85 of 1993), made the following amendments to the Commercial Diving Regulations as published in Notice No. 46380, in Gazette No. 11435, published on 20 May 2022 as follows:

Definitions

1. In these regulations, a word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act has the meaning so assigned and, unless the context otherwise indicates—

"**air scuba**" means a self-contained underwater breathing apparatus in which the supply of breathing gas carried by the diver is independent of any other source;

"**class IV commercial diver**" means a registered commercial diver who is competent in all aspects of air diving using commercial scuba, to a maximum depth of 30 m;

"**class V commercial diver**" means a registered commercial scientific diver who is competent in air scuba diving and may dive under the code of practice for scientific diving, to a depth not exceeding 30 m;

"**commercial scuba**" means a self-contained underwater breathing apparatus consisting of a full face mask, cylinder, bail out cylinder, switching block, life line and voice communications;

"**scuba**" definition has been deleted

Registration

3. (1)(a) Subject to subregulation (1), a commercial diving contractor must within 3 months of this gazette, be registered as a commercial diving contractor by the Chief Inspector.

Duties of registered commercial diving schools

14 (1) A registered commercial diving school must—
(a) have in place an ISO 9001 quality management system certified by a certification body within 12 months of this gazette.

Recompression chamber operations

21. (1) An employer must ensure that a recompression chamber is available for immediate use whenever diving operations take place, at a depth exceeding -
(a) fifty metres;

- (b) ten metres, but not exceeding fifty metres where the routine decompression time exceeds twenty minutes; or
- (c) ten metres, but not exceeding fifty metres where the routine decompression time is twenty minutes or less and effective arrangements have not been made for a diver requiring therapeutic recompression to be brought to a suitable chamber within two hours from the time when the need for recompression is identified.

(2) Where a recompression chamber is not required for immediate use as contemplated in sub-regulation (1), the employer must –

- (a) make arrangements to ensure that a recompression chamber is available within the maximum time allowed by the tables in use, and
- (b) ensure that the recompression chamber is in a safe and operational state

Diving Technical Committee

24. (1) The Council may establish a Diving Technical Committee consisting of—

- f. Three representatives from organized business
- i. Three representatives from organized labour

Prohibitions

25. (1) An employer or commercial diving school may not –

- (a) Allow a person to:
 - i. For commercial scuba, dive without having an alternate breathing gas supply available that is sufficient for that person to reach a place of safety in case of an emergency; or
 - ii. For air scuba, dive without the minimum plant and machinery as listed in the definition of “air scuba”

(6) A commercial diving contractor may not undertake commercial diving projects without being registered with the Chief Inspector.

ANNEXURE D

DIVING OPERATIONS: MINIMUM PERSONNEL REQUIRED

(PARTS 1 AND 2)

[Regulation 13(i)]

PART 1 – Commercial diving operations

Maximum depth of dive	Air SCUBA (Class V)	Commercial SCUBA (Class IV)
0-30 m	1 x Dive supervisor 1 x Diver 1 x Standby diver with life line 1 x line attendant 1 x DMP (on call)	1 x Dive supervisor 1 x Diver 1 x Standby diver 2 x line attendant 1 x DMP (on call)
30-50 m	No diving	No diving

PART 2 – class VI diving operations

Maximum depth of dive	Air SCUBA (Class VI)
0-8 m	1 x Supervisor 1 x Diver 1 x Standby diver 1 x Line attendant 1 x DMP (on call)



MR TW NXESI, MP
MINISTER OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR
DATE: 03/10/2022