

NOAA DIVING SAFETY BULLETIN #79-3

MEMORANDUM FOR: ALL NOAA DIVERS

FROM: J. Morgan Wells
NOAA Diving Coordinator

SUBJECT: Poseidon Regulator Hose Failure/Replacement of
Poseidon Intermediate Breathing Hoses and Unisuit
Inflator Hoses

NOAA Diving Safety Bulletin #79-2 (July 12, 1979) instructed NOAA divers to "discontinue use of Poseidon regulators until further notice." This Bulletin includes instructions which will enable divers to identify potentially faulty hoses and to obtain replacement hoses.

The attached announcement from Parkway Fabricators includes diagrams of the "old" (potentially defective) and new (O.K.) hoses. The first state fitting is the key which will enable identification of the respective hoses. Note the space between the pressed metal fitting and the threaded fitting. The "new" hoses have a space of approximately 2 mm, while the two fittings on the "old" hoses meet. This means of identification applies to both intermediate breathing hoses and to Unisuit inflator hoses.

In December 1977 Parkway Fabricators announced the recall of Poseidon Cyklon 300 regulators with serial numbers 15024 through 16523 and 18050 through 18549 because of possible defect in the hose fittings. Unisuit inflator hoses were not recalled. NOAA divers have experienced failures of both types of hoses. At diving units where a number of these regulators are serviced, exchange of hoses is highly probable, therefore do not depend on serial numbers alone to identify potentially defective hoses. After potentially defective hoses have been replaced or existing hoses have been confirmed as being acceptable, you may resume use of Poseidon regulators.

Again it should be remembered that the loss of any of the hoses in question results in loss of air supply to the diver.

Two additional recommendations are appropriate here:

1. Pay attention to all recalls or announcements relating to defective, potentially defective, or unsafe equipment.
2. Initiate a means of alerting all NOAA divers of hazardous equipment or practices. The most effective means at present is through the NOAA Diving Office.

The new address and telephone numbers of the NOAA Diving Office are:

NOAA-NDO
6010 Executive Blvd
Rockville, MD 20852

FTS/ (301) 443-8007, 8008

Attachment