

October 19, 1987

NOAA DIVING SAFETY BULLETIN 87-2

MEMORANDUM FOR: ALL NOAA DIVERS

FROM: N/MO15 - J. Morgan Wells  
NOAA Diving Coordinator

SUBJECT: 1) Retrofit of Plastic Dip Tubes with  
Brass Dip Tubes in Scubapro Tank  
Valves  
2) Faulty High Pressure (H.P.) Valve  
Seat

The following is quoted from SCUBAPRO Engineering Bulletin #181:

"In response to a request from the U.S. Department of Transportation (D.O.T.), Scubapro has discontinued the use of all plastic dip tubes (P/N 14-157-106) in all applications. It has been suggested by the D.O.T. that in the event that a charged cylinder is exposed to fire, a plastic dip tube could melt or deform, and possibly prevent effective release of air through the pressure relief valve (burst disc).

The affected valves are the standard valve, P/N 14-059-000, 14-070-000 and double tank manifold 14-002-000 and 14-003-000. The Scubapro H.P. and D.C.A.R. are not affected as they have always had brass dip tubes. These valves can be identified by the high pressure stem gauge in the back of the valve. Their P/N's are 14-072-000, 14-151-000, 14-152-000 and 14-071-000.

The new replacement brass dip tubes (P/N 14-157-108) are in stock and available now. We are requesting that you replace any plastic dip tubes with new style brass tubes during the next service or visual inspection. New brass tubes are provided free of charge on an exchange basis."

All plastic dip tubes on NOAA tank valves should be replaced as soon as possible.

FAULTY HIGH PRESSURE (H.P.) VALVE SEAT

The Navy reports that nylon valve seats (Part no. 2302) installed in the Poseidon Cyklon 300 SCUBA Regulator will freeflow when pressurized. A new improved Teflon H.P. seat (PN 2302 Teflon) has been developed to replace the defective seat. All Nylon H.P. seat should be replaced to ensure safe operation of the regulator. Visual inspection can verify nylon (colored white) vice Teflon (colored yellowish brown) H.P. Valve seat.

Viking American Inc. distributors for Poseidon regulators is conducting a no cost one-for-one replacement of the nylon seats for the Teflon H.P. seats. For details, contact Viking America:

Viking American, Inc.  
55 Old South Avenue  
Stratford, CT 06497  
(203) 377-6974