

October 5, 1990

NOAA DIVING SAFETY BULLETIN #90-4

MEMORANDUM FOR: All NOAA Divers

FROM: J. Morgan Wells
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SUBJECT: U.S. Divers Regulator failure

The U.S. Navy Experimental Dive Unit (EDU) has issued an advisory about U.S. Divers (USD) SE-2 series SCUBA regulators 1st stage failures. The potential exist for like failures on all Conshelf series and Royal SL/PRO-Diver series SCUBA regulators.

The failure manifest as a creeping of the intermediate pressure which causes a blow-by of H.P. air (free flow) through the regulator second stage. The failed part is identified as USD part #1053-20- high pressure seat, (see diagram).

Faulty seats can be identified as follows:

1. Product date on packaging has a batch date prior to Aug 22, 1990. Batch dates are read from right to left , (example; April 13, 1990 would be 093140).
2. Visual inspection will reveal well defined outline of black seating material on face of seat. Back of seat may have etched check mark.

Known good seats can be identified as follows:

1. Product date on packaging has a batch date of Aug 22, 1990 or later.

2. Visual inspection will reveal a definite black seating material on face of seat, two etched check marks on back of seat, and/or date etched on back of seat.

Any Divers using USD Conshelf series, SE-2 series or Royal SL/Pro Diver series regulators are to curtail their use until the faulty part can be replaced and regulator tested. Regulators will be inspected and serviced by local vendors, using the information contained in this bulletin.

For any additional information call the NOAA Diving Center at 206 526-6196 or FTS 392-6196.