



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL SEA SYSTEMS COMMAND
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WASHINGTON NAVY YARD DC 20376-0001

IN REPLY TO

10560
Ser 00C32/3062
26 Jul 04

From: Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command (00C3B)
Subj: DIVING EQUIPMENT AUTHORIZED FOR U.S. NAVY USE (ANU)
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 3150.27A Navy Diving Program
(b) U.S. Navy Diving Manual, Revision 4

1. Purpose. In accordance with reference (a), this letter promulgates the updated ANU list which is available via the NAVSEA 00C website, www.supsalv.org.

2. Background. The ANU list has been converted from a text document into an active database to facilitate additions and changes. This conversion should be transparent to the Fleet user.

3. Definition. ANU denotes selected diving equipment, tools and accessories which have undergone design safety reviews, testing and/or evaluation to ensure diver safety and accessibility. The three categories of equipment on the ANU are:

Category I. Diving life support equipment which is outside the scope of the Navy system certification program, e.g., SCUBA regulators, life preservers.

Category II. Non-life support equipment which is potentially hazardous to the diver, e.g., explosively actuated tools, surface powered electrical tools, diver location sonars. Hazards to the diver include, but are not limited to, sound, electrical shock, explosives etc.

Category III. Non-life support accessory equipment which enhances mission accomplishment but is not considered hazardous to the diver or essential for safe diving operations.

4. Discussion. Prior to acceptance, diving life support equipment must undergo testing and evaluation to ensure proper operation and suitability for use in it's projected operating environment. This testing and evaluation encompasses the entire range of equipment operation and is generally conducted under the auspices of the Navy Experimental Diving Unit. Potentially hazardous, non-life support equipment at a minimum will undergo a design safety review. Testing and evaluation may also be required to ensure the hazards are well understood and mitigated as

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practical. Inclusion of specific manufacturer's equipment on the ANU does not constitute a commercial endorsement by the U.S. Navy.

5. Policy.

a. In accordance with references (a) and (b), only certified diving equipment or diving life support equipment listed on the ANU will be procured and used by U.S. Navy diving activities. With the exception of class certified UBAs, certified diver's life support systems and surface supplied diving systems are not listed on the ANU since their certification status implies authorization for use.

b. Explosively actuated tools, electrical equipment which operates at a voltage greater than 7.5 VAC or 30 VDC, or other non-life support equipment which presents a potential hazard to the diver requires ANU approval prior to use. Reference (b) provides guidance on the use of Ground Fault Interrupters (GFIs) for electrical equipment used during diving operations.

c. Electrical equipment that operates at a voltage less than 7.5 VAC or 30 VDC AND does not present another hazard to the diver is considered Category III equipment and does not require ANU approval.

d. Procurement and use of the specific category III items listed on the ANU is encouraged. However, activities may procure any commercially available equipment similar to other category III equipment provided it is maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

e. Reference (a) designates commands that are authorized to procure and use category I and II equipment not listed on the ANU for the purpose of research, development, testing and evaluation (RDT&E).

6. Questions regarding applicability of a particular tool or piece of equipment should be directed to the Supervisor of Diving, Fleet Liaison representative (NAVSEA 00C32) at commercial (202) 781-3821, DSN 326-3821.


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