

**STANDARDS PRESENTATION  
TO  
CALIFORNIA OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH STANDARDS BOARD**

Attachment No. 1

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PROPOSED STATE STANDARD,  
TITLE 8, DIVISION 1, CHAPTER 4

§6050. General.

(a) Scope.

(1) This standard applies to all diving operations, ~~commercial, scientific, technical and agricultural~~ which are conducted within the boundaries of the State as defined in Government Code Section 170 except in areas of exclusive Federal jurisdiction and the exceptions listed below. In addition, any diver involved in commercial diving operations shall comply with the requirements of Sections 6059 thru 6063 of these orders.

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NOTE: Authority cited: Section 142.3, Labor Code. Reference: Section 142.3, Labor Code.

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§6051. Definitions.

As used in this Article, the listed terms are as follows:

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**Commercial Diving Operations.** All diving operations in which construction, demolition, repair, maintenance, shipbuilding, shipbreaking or ship repair, work is performed.

**Controlled Environment.** As used in this section, the term applies only to film and TV Diving operations. A controlled environment is defined as an underwater space where communication between divers and the surface is readily available, potential hazards external to the space are prevented from entering and hazards within the space are effectively controlled. A dive team trained and ready to respond to the specific hazards of the space shall be present and available to initiate emergency response during all diving operations conducted in the space. Dive team training, at a minimum, shall include surveying the space to anticipate hazards, safety briefings to discuss hazard awareness and response, rescue diving and means of underwater communication.

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**Film and TV Diving.** Underwater operations associated with the production of feature films, television, streaming, commercials, music videos, natural history visuals, corporate videos, or any other moving images and photographic stills, which are not an integral part of an ongoing construction, demolition, or maintenance job.

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~~Technical Diving. Diving other than scientific or commercial diving, which requires technical expertise and is not an integral part of an ongoing construction, demolition, repair, maintenance, shipbuilding, shipbreaking, or ship repair job. Such activities include, but are not limited to, making or performing observations, measurements, and adjustments, film and TV diving, and zoo and aquarium exhibit diving.~~

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NOTE: Authority cited: Section 142.3, Labor Code. Reference: Section 142.3, Labor Code.

§6052. General Requirements.

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3. Pre-Dive Inspection. The designated ~~person-in-charge~~ shall ascertain that the diver has conducted a functional check of ~~his or her~~their own diving equipment, the breathing gas supply system including reserve breathing gas supplies, masks, helmets, thermal protection and bell handling mechanism (when appropriate) and shall inquire into the diver's current state of diving fitness.

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NOTE: Authority cited: Section 142.3, Labor Code. Reference: Section 142.3, Labor Code.

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§6054. Manual for Diving Safety.

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(3) Emergency Evacuation and Emergency Medical Treatment Procedures.

(A) A listing including the telephone or other contact numbers of an operational recompression chambers (if not at the dive location) and appropriate medical facilities.

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NOTE: Authority cited: Section 142.3, Labor Code. Reference: Section 142.3, Labor Code.

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§6056. Basic Operation Procedures.

(a) SCUBA Diving (Compressed Air and Mixed Gas).

(1) Limits:

(A) ~~Compressed air~~ SCUBA diving shall not be conducted at depths greater than 130 fsw (40 msw).

~~EXCEPTION: SCUBA diving to a maximum depth of 190 fsw (58 msw) is permitted for scientific and technical diving operations, providing the diver(s) has been certified for the depth reached.~~

~~(B) SCUBA diving shall not be conducted at depths greater than 100 fsw (30 msw) unless a recompression chamber is ready for use or procedures have been established at the dive location for emergency evacuation of the diver(s) to a recompression chamber.~~

~~SCUBA diving shall not be conducted at depths greater than 100 fsw (30 msw) and outside no-decompression limits unless a decompression chamber is available within four (4) hours of the dive location.~~

(B) SCUBA diving shall not be conducted at depths greater than 100 fsw (30 msw) or outside the no-decompression limits unless a decompression chamber is ready for use.

(C) SCUBA diving shall not be conducted against currents exceeding one (1) knot unless line-tended.

EXCEPTION to section 6056(a)(1)(C): ~~Technical d~~Technical divers performing film and TV diving operations in controlled environments can artificially increase currents above one (1) knot provided the artificial current can be reduced to one (1) knot or less in case of an emergency and the dive team is trained and available to initiate emergency response ~~to work~~ in such conditions.

(D) SCUBA diving shall not be conducted in enclosed or physically confining spaces unless line-tended.

EXCEPTION to section 6056(a)(1)(D): ~~Technical d~~Technical divers performing film and TV diving operations in controlled environments can work in enclosed or physically ~~confined~~confining spaces without being line-tended provided the following requirements are met: the dive team is trained to respond to an emergency in such conditions.

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1. The dive team is led by an in-water competent person, who is trained and available to respond to an emergency in such conditions.

2. A sufficient number of in-water support divers with no other duties are available to initiate emergency response.

3. The space is configured to allow for effective rescue.

(2) Procedures.

(A) A standby diver shall be available while a diver is in the water.

(B) A diver shall be line-tended from the surface or accompanied by another SCUBA diver in the water where they shall remain in effective communication with each other and be able to render immediate assistance in case of an emergency throughout the diving operation.

EXCEPTION to section 6056(a)(2)(A): ~~Technical divers~~ performing zoo and aquarium exhibit diving operations shall be deemed to be in compliance with section 6056(a)(2) provided the employer complies with either subsection (A) or (B) and the designated person-in-charge does not have other responsibilities that could interfere with responding to a diving emergency including line-tending or filling the role of standby diver.

(C) A diver shall be stationed at the underwater point of entry when diving is conducted in enclosed or physically confining spaces; ~~or an orientation line shall be used in enclosed spaces where there is a probability of entrapment or disorientation.~~

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(5) Hookah.

(A) Hookah diving shall be permissible only during ~~technical diving~~ zoo and aquarium exhibit diving and film and TV diving operations.

(B) Hookah divers shall comply with all SCUBA diving procedures in this section except for the depth limitations contained in section 6056(a)(1). Hookah diving shall not be conducted at depths greater than 30 fsw (9 msw).

(C) A non-return valve shall be connected to the mask, helmet, or second stage of the SCUBA regulator.

(D) When using hookah, each diver shall wear a safety harness with:

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1. A positive buckling device;
2. An attachment for the primary gas hose to distribute the pull force of the line and to prevent strain on the mask, helmet, or second stage regulator; and
3. A lifting point to distribute the pull force of the line over the diver's body.

(E) Divers using the hookah mode shall be equipped with a regulator and an independent reserve breathing gas supply sufficient to return to the surface.

EXCEPTION to section 6056(a)(5)(D) through 6056(a)(5)(E): Divers performing film and TV Diving operations do not need to comply with section 6056(a)(5)(D) through 6056(a)(5)(E) while working in controlled environments and the following requirements are met:

1. A trained in-water support diver with no other duties and in compliance with section 6056(a)(5)(D) through 6056(a)(5)(E) shall be available to assist each diver operating under this exception (i.e. there is a 1:1 ratio of divers using the exception and support divers not using the exception).
2. The dive team is led by an in-water competent person, who is trained and available to respond to an emergency in such conditions.

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NOTE: Authority cited: Section 142.3, Labor Code. Reference: Section 142.3, Labor Code.