

AS 2815.3:2021



Training and certification of occupational divers

Part 3: Surface supplied diving to 50 m



AS 2815.3:2021

This Australian Standard ® was prepared by SF-017, Occupational Diving. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 06 December 2021.

This Standard was published on 17 December 2021.

The following are represented on Committee SF-017:

- Australasian Institute for Maritime Archaeology
- Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU)
- Australian Diver Accreditation Scheme
- Australian Marine Sciences Association
- Australian Medical Association
- Better Regulation Division (Fair Trading, SafeWork NSW, TestSafe)
- Department of Defence (Australian Government)
- Flinders University
- Maritime Union of Australia
- National Association of Occupational Diver Training Establishments
- NSW Police Force
- Victoria Police
- Zoo and Aquarium Association

This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR AS 2815.3:2020.

Keeping Standards up-to-date

Ensure you have the latest versions of our publications and keep up-to-date about Amendments, Rulings, Withdrawals, and new projects by visiting:

www.standards.org.au

ISBN 978 1 76113 631 3

Training and certification of occupational divers

Part 3: Surface supplied diving to 50 m

Originated as AS 2815.3—1985.
Previous edition 1992.
Third edition AS 2815.3:2021.

© Standards Australia Limited 2021

All rights are reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without the written permission of the publisher, unless otherwise permitted under the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth).

Preface

This Standard was prepared by the Australian members of the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee SF-017, Occupational Diving, to supersede AS 2815.3—1992, *Training and certification of occupational divers, Part 3: Air Diving to 50 m*.

After consultation with stakeholders in both countries, Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand decided to develop this document as an Australian Standard rather than an Australian/New Zealand Standard.

The inclusion of roles and responsibilities in AS 2815.3:2021, was approved by the Standards Development and Accreditation Committee (SDAC) on 6 August 2020, as a one-off exemption to the directives of Standardization Guide SG-006, Section 35.

The objective of this document is to provide regulatory authorities, training providers and trainees with the content of a training course for imparting minimum levels of competency to trainee occupational surface supplied breathing apparatus (SSBA) divers, and assessment procedures.

This document is particularly relevant to the training of personnel who will be engaged in underwater SSBA operations as described in the AS/NZS 2299 series on occupational diving operations and offshore operations.

The task training set out in the units of this document will provide the trainee with a general appreciation of the techniques and problems involved in carrying out the specified underwater work. For the diver to be considered a competent underwater worker, it will generally be necessary for further specialist training to be undertaken.

This document is Part 3 of a series of Standards on the training and certification of underwater divers, where the requirements of regulatory authorities and industry demand a prescribed degree of training and competence to ensure an adequate degree of safety, performance and economy.

The major changes for this edition are to set out the units in a competency-based format and a review of the training dive requirements.

Contents

Preface	ii
Section 1 Scope and general	1
1.1 Scope.....	1
1.2 Application.....	2
1.2.1 General.....	2
1.2.2 Certification.....	2
1.2.3 Qualification.....	3
1.3 Normative references.....	3
1.4 Terms and definitions.....	3
1.5 Purpose.....	6
1.6 Trainee application criteria.....	6
Section 2 Training course content	8
Section 3 Units of competency	9
3.1 Unit 1 — Underwater deployment — SSBA to 50 m.....	9
3.1.1 General.....	9
3.1.2 Unit of competency, elements and performance criteria.....	9
3.1.3 Dive requirements.....	9
3.1.4 Training dives.....	9
3.2 Unit 2 — Assist as an attendant inside a chamber.....	10
3.2.1 General.....	10
3.2.2 Unit of competency, elements and performance criteria.....	11
3.3 Unit 3 — Prepare, operate and maintain twin-lock compression chamber.....	11
3.3.1 General.....	11
3.3.2 Unit of competency, elements and performance criteria.....	11
3.4 Unit 4 — Use hot water suit and hot water supply system.....	12
3.4.1 General.....	12
3.4.2 Unit of competency, elements and performance criteria.....	12
3.5 Unit 5 — Work safely in offshore diving operations.....	14
3.5.1 General.....	14
3.5.2 Unit of competency, elements and performance criteria.....	14
3.6 Unit 6 — Participate in stage or wet bell diving.....	15
3.6.1 General.....	15
3.6.2 Unit of competency, elements and performance criteria.....	15
Section 4 Training plans, assessment and planned experience	17
4.1 Developing the training plan.....	17
4.1.1 General.....	17
4.1.2 Consultation with authorities.....	17
4.1.3 Conformance with workplace health and safety requirements and other standards.....	17
4.1.4 Syllabus.....	17
4.1.5 Training records.....	18
4.1.6 Course outline.....	18
4.2 Methods of trainee assessment.....	18
4.2.1 General conditions.....	18
4.2.2 Assessment methods.....	18
4.2.3 Conditions of assessment.....	19
4.2.4 Practical work.....	19
4.2.5 Theory assessments.....	19
4.2.6 Assessment of personnel with previous diving experience.....	19
4.3 Staffing, equipment and facilities.....	20
4.3.1 Staffing.....	20
4.3.2 Equipment and facilities.....	21
4.4 Planned experience.....	23

Bibliography **24**

Australian Standard®

Training and certification of occupational divers

Part 3: Surface supplied diving to 50 m

Section 1 Scope and general

1.1 Scope

This document specifies the training activities and competencies required for the training and certification of divers to work safely and competently as members of an occupational diving team —

- (a) using surface supplied breathing apparatus (SSBA) to depths of 50 m, including decompression dives and surface decompression;
- (b) assisting as an attendant inside a chamber;
- (c) preparing, operating and maintaining a twin-lock compression chamber;
- (d) using a hot water suit and hot water supply system;
- (e) working safely in offshore diving operations; and
- (f) participating in stage or wet bell diving.

Training and certification to this document is generally the minimum required by a diver to undertake diving in offshore locations, such as oil and gas exploration, development and production, and in on-shore construction activities or diving at depths greater than 30 m, where surface compression chambers are required by AS/NZS 2299.1 to be present on site or are used as an alternative to in-water decompression.

Requirements and guidance for providers of surface supplied diver training are given in [Section 4](#).

NOTE 1 Many occupational diving operations will require additional underwater work skills to those listed in this document. It should be noted that there may be specific regulatory requirements relating to occupational divers intending to work in the construction industry.

NOTE 2 Restricted occupational diver certification is for persons whose diving duties do not require training in all of the specialized underwater tasks or equipment (see [Section 2](#)). Divers with restricted certificates may only undertake diving operations that involve limited use of plant, tools and equipment. Persons holding restricted occupational diver certificates to this document may upgrade their diving qualifications by completion of all remaining modules in this document and in AS 2815.2 for full certification.

NOTE 3 Training and certification of occupational SCUBA divers is dealt with in AS 2815.1 and certification of surface supplied diving to 30 m is dealt with in AS 2815.2.

NOTE 4 Attention is drawn to the requirements of AS/NZS 2299.1 and of regulatory authorities, which may contain limits for the depths and times of diving.

NOTE 5 Persons who wish to be trained sufficiently to dive to depths greater than 50 m need to be trained to AS 2815.4. Graduates from training courses to this document (i.e. AS 2815.3), who wish to upgrade their diving qualifications, may be eligible to do so by completing approved selected modules at an approved diver training establishment.