

# European Diving Technology Committee



Issue 2 - May 2012

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**NEWSLETTER**

Member Country and Groups Represented:				
				
Austria	Belgium	Croatia	Czech Republic	Denmark
				
Estonia	Finland	France	Germany	Italy
				
Latvia	Netherlands	Norway	Poland	Portugal
				
Spain	Slovak Republic	Sweden	Switzerland	Turkey
				
United Kingdom	IMCA	IDSA	IDRF	ADC

[www.edtc.org](http://www.edtc.org)

# A Letter from the Chairman



The activity of the Board continues to evolve as the year progresses and the work of specialist sub-committees has commenced on the items agreed at the last annual meeting.

The EDTC Board members now seek to hold teleconferences on a regular basis and aim to agree by consensus on matters that have been proposed by members at the annual meeting, in an effort to ensure that the progress of

EDTC is conducted strictly in a democratic manner.

Of particular interest to all members of EDTC will be the decision of the board, following extensive discussions, to postpone the proposed conference in Brussels, until such times as there has been some advancement in the matters that are to be promoted at the conference. It is important to understand that as the cost to organise a conference of this nature would be substantial and will need the support of a significant number of EDTC members well in advance, if it is to effectively promote EDTC in a wider arena, ensure the matters to be discussed are well advanced and most importantly that the objectives of EDTC are fully evolved.

In an effort to facilitate progress towards an external conference, you will note elsewhere in this Newsletter, that there are plans for the annual meeting to be extended by an additional half day to allow all routine matters to be dealt with before an EDTC Workshop is convened to allow members present to better influence the future direction of EDTC.

This of course just the start. As Chairman I hope to continue promoting the activities of EDTC to meet with this wishes of the Membership.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Annual meeting in Oslo in October.

Best wishes for the remainder of the year

*Jörn Ryberg*

Chairman of EDTC

## New ADC Code of Practice

Following a period of development, ADC in the UK launched the new Code of Practice at the 2012 Oceanology Exhibition, recently held at the Excel Centre in London.

The Code deals with all matters relating to Conducting Diving up to 12 miles offshore, in water

depths up to 50m depth, using air or nitrox diving techniques from an assortment of vessels.

The document is freely available as a secured PDF download file from a link on the ADC website, [www.adc-uk.info](http://www.adc-uk.info), and is also available for sale in an A4 loose leaf folder format, the details of which are included on the website.

## DRAFT INTERNATIONAL STANDARD ISO/DIS 12209

**Gas cylinders — Outlet connections for gas cylinder valves for compressed breathable air.**

A working group acting on behalf of the International Standards Organisation has recently compiled the above document which has now been released as a Draft for review.

Whilst it is accepted that a number of our members may only have a passing interest in the development of this standard, this leaves a selection of other members who may have already been involved in the development of the standard, or who may wish to obtain a copy of the review document and possibly comment on specific elements.

At 23 pages, this is a substantial document that takes time to understand and digest. The lead page and contents have been attached to this Month Update for quick reference.

A pdf copy of the complete review document can be obtained from the secretary by sending in an E mail requesting a copy be forwarded.

The period for review ends no later than 23rd July 2012.



## Renewables Workgroup.

Having held an initial teleconference to get the work started, the designated working group met in London in March to set out the scope of the proposed document and to establish some key areas that need to be focused upon.

In keeping with previous EDTC guidance documents, it was confirmed that this will be a high level piece of work aimed at setting out the key factors that need to be considered when planning to carry out diving works on renewable projects.

ADC recently issued a new Code of Practice for its Members that sets out in some detail the full scope of requirements that need to be considered for diving on renewable projects. Whilst the document is principally aimed at renewable projects being carried out in and around the UK, the working group considered that some of the content was relevant and would be most helpful in the progress of the EDTC Document.

ADC kindly agreed to provide the EDTC group with select elements of the Code document to kick start the guidance document.

The initial review draft of the guidance document is expected to be circulated to all Members during July 2012, this review issue should leave enough time to deal with any immediate feedback before a more detailed review at the Annual Meeting.

It is hoped that following the Annual Meeting this document can be completed and be issued as part of the EDTC Portfolio of Guidance Documents.

## UK Recognition of non-EU diving qualifications.

As a result of recent discussions with the International Diving Regulators Forum and other interested parties, HSE in the UK has decided to discontinue the automatic recognition of diving qualifications from non-European countries.

The implementation date has not been set, but would not be before the 1st April 2012. From the implementation date any diver who holds qualifications from non-EU countries and who wishes to dive at work in the UK will need to apply in writing (including email) to HSE for approval of their qualifications.

This arrangement will not be retrospective. As a result the List of Approved Qualifications issued by HSE, and available on their website, will remain for non-EU qualifications obtained before the implementation date.

The parameters for competence will be transparent and available on HSE's website. However, the ultimate responsibility for ensuring competence remained with the company that employs the diver, in accordance with requirements of DWR97 Reg 6 (3) (a).



## Annual Meeting.

As you will have noted from the Chairman's introductory letter it is proposed that the annual be extended to include a one day preparatory workshop / conference, in addition to the usual progress of the annual meeting. The hope is that this will clarify some of the matters that will need to be resolved in readiness for an external conference in 2013 or 2014.

A date of Friday the 12th of October 2012 has been agreed for the annual meeting in Norway. The proposal to extend the annual meeting involves members arriving at 1300 on Thursday 11th October and the afternoon being taken up dealing with the routine matters of EDTC including annual reports and administrative matters.

In keeping with tradition, the discussion would continue during the evening gathering and be summarised during the initial session on the 12th for the purpose of ensuring accurate and complete minutes of the meeting are obtained.

The remainder of the day would then be given up to having an internal conference, the conclusion of which should be establish if an external conference is warranted and agreeing how best to progress this in the best interest of EDTC.

The initial of the proposed agenda for the extended meeting has been included on page 4 of this Newsletter.

A more detailed agenda will be circulated in the near future and this will include full details of the meeting arrangements and will set out some suggestions for travel and accommodation close to the venue.



## PPOPOSED AGENDA NORWAY MEETING and WORKSHOP 2012

**Location:** NYD - Norsk Yrkesdykkerskole Oslo  
Norwegian School of Commercial Diving Oslo  
 PB 23, NO-1457 Fagerstrand

[www.nyd.org](http://www.nyd.org)

**Host Contact:** Dag W. Wroldsen

**Day 1:** **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2012** (*Association Admin and National reports*)

Start: 1200

Expected completion: 1600/1700

### Agenda Items:

No.	Subject:	Responsible:
1	Welcome and Safety and Security Information	Chairman / Host
2	Apologies	?
3	EDTC Membership Summary	?
4	Approval of Minutes from the Marseille Meeting 2011	All
5	Actions from 2011 Annual Meeting	?
6	EDTC Conference Update	?
7	Chairman's Report.	Chairman
8	Report from the Medical Subcommittee	Chairman Med. Ct.
9	National Reports	National Rep.
10	Report from the International Diving Regulators Forum	IDRF Members
11	Elections	All
12	Any other business, Next Meeting, Venue and Date	All

**Evening event held by the hosting country.** (Details to be confirmed)

**Day 2:** **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2012** (*Internal EDTC Workshop*)

Start: 0830

Expected completion: 1600/1700

### Agenda Items:

No.	Subject:	Responsible:
1	Introduction and Background by Chairman	Chairman
2	Report by Working Group on Renewable Diving Guide	?
3	Presentations on Country Renewable Diving activity	?
4	Report on Country Legislation Comparison.	All
5	Discussion on requirements for an External Conference	?
6	Discussion on applying a Fee for Membership of EDTC	?
7	Summary and Actions from Workgroup Meetings.	Chairman

**Accommodation:** Details of local accommodation and any special attendance instructions will be included with the formal meeting notice to be issued as part of EDTC Newsletters.