

European Diving Technology Committee



Issue 3 - Dec 2012

Host of the EDTC Annual Meeting and Workshop, NYD, Oslo



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M314 KNM ALTA - EX Minesweeper

NEWSLETTER

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A Letter from the Chairman



2012 has been an interesting year. The Executive Board, acting on the Members behalf, have probably been more active than at any time in the recent past.

Of particular note this year has been the development of the Guidance for Diving on Renewable Energy Projects, a substantial piece of work that has been the subject of much discussion and comment since it was first compiled and circulated to Members. This may also be the first time that EDTC has taken on a task and completed it to publication for Members use within 12 months, a model that

should be adopted for all subsequent tasks progressed by EDTC.

Although significantly advanced, there remains a requirement for a substantial amount of effort to be expended to finalise the content of this document to make it truly representative of the way in which diving on Renewable Projects should be progressed across Europe. Your comments are important, without them the final document may not truly reflect the whole industry sector.

But it is important that all Members of EDTC understand, and be in no doubt that this is not European Regulations, it is a summary of what should be considered as current 'Industry Best Practice', in effect the best way to conduct diving operations of this nature to protect both the clients who require the work and the contractors who do the work.

As we enter 2013, the European Community still face challenging times ahead, and that is bound to impact on this industry sector. For EDTC to remain a relevant force representing all the members of the Community, it is important that you remain active in your own country and continue to assist EDTC to progress and broaden understanding of the importance of safer diving practice.

Whilst the Executive Board may have offered their seasonal greetings elsewhere, let me also extend seasonal greetings for Christmas and Best Wishes for the New Year.

Jorn Ryberg

Chairman of EDTC



Boat Trip Social Event Summary

An exiting evening was arranged at the NYD Diving School at Fagerstrand.

Before being able to take part of the activities at the site, a beautiful boat trip was arranged onboard an old mine sweeper. The historical crew served pea soup which is traditional in Norway during cold weather together with special local beverages.

At the school the EDTC delegates were presented with all the different activities and stages of education that can be provided at this premises. Since it was evening at the arrival, the student had to practice all the different elements of education within the dark.

The evening was concluded with relevant discussion onboard the fine old mine sweeper that ended back at Akkers Brygge in Oslo.

A Summary of the EDTC Annual Meeting

The annual meeting was held in Oslo on the 11th and 12th of October 2012 and was attended by 32 delegates representing 19 separate countries or organisations who attend EDTC events.

Apologies for non attendance at the meeting were made on behalf of 12 members and included the outgoing Secretary who would have attended had the meeting been held in September as previously arranged but was unable to reappoint commitments overseas to achieve attendance.

Following a welcome address by the current Chairman, Jorn Ryberg, during which the activities of the board in the year leading up to the meeting were summarized.

David G. Parkes of DCBC followed the welcome address with some thoughtful words on friend and colleague Paul Butler, who sadly passed away the day before the 2011 EDTC meeting in Marseille. The obituary was concluded with a minute's silence in memory of Paul Butler.

Progressing to EDTC administrative matters, the minutes of the 2011 annual meeting were approved as circulated to Members earlier in the year. Three resignations were confirmed, including the current Secretary, and new members representing Denmark, Norway, Turkey and Australia were confirmed.

Akin Savas Toklu was accepted as a new Member of the Executive Board and Dr Jurg Wendling accepted

re-nomination and was re-appointed to the Board. Actions from previous meetings were then set out and the status summarized.

From 2005, the Revision of Safety Guidelines was deferred to a matter for the workgroup discussion planned for the 12th October.

From 2006, progress towards the EDTC Workshop had been slow and as only 14 countries had submitted copies of their regulations, the Executive Board had concluded that the Committee was not properly prepared to hold such a workshop and as a result this was postponed until further progress had been made.

From 2011, the Compliance Statement and Mutual recognition of Diving Certificates was an on going matter being dealt with by Staffan Littorin. A decision was made to finalize this work by sending a template document to each EDTC "Governmental Representative" for completing the contact details of the authority responsible for issuing "National Regulations" as well as (if possible) references websites, etc.

Also from 2011, the Wind Farm Guidance document that had been prepared by a working group remained a work

in progress awaiting feedback and comment from EDTC members.

Dr Jurg Wendling, the current Vice Chairman and lead on the EDTC Medical Committee

confirmed that Switzerland had now adopted the EDTC Standard for both diving and medical issues. Dr Wendling followed his introduction with presentation of a paper that had been submitted during a meeting in Karlskrona, Sweden. Full details of the presentation will be submitted with the minutes of the meeting. National reports from representatives attending the meeting followed and included presentations from; IMCA, Denmark, France, Norway, Turkey, UK, IDSA, OGP, IDRF, Technip and a very informative presentation from the hosts of this annual meeting, the Norwegian School of Commercial Diving (NYD), presented by the principal host representative, Dag Wroldsen. Members were appraised of the development of the Windfarm Guidance Notes by Chris Sherman. Details of comments received so far were circulated

to members and outline of the intentions for the workshop groups was explained. Day 1 of the meeting was concluded with confirmation that the 2013 meeting would be held in Istanbul in September or October of that year.

Thanks from all those who



attended were extended to Dag Wroldsen of NYD.

Workshop Summary

In what has become a first for EDTC, following the administration elements of the annual meeting, plans to separate the delegates attending the meeting into working groups and have them discuss the key aspects of professional diving that should be actively promoted by EDTC in its efforts to achieve the aims of Committee as set out in the constitution.

To achieve a broad perspective on the matters that members consider to be appropriate the delegates attending the meeting were split into 6 groups, generally comprising four or more in each group. In an effort to focus the areas of discussion, seven headings were provided for the groups to concentrate their discussions, the headings comprised the following;

1. Diving Safety.
2. Diving Technology.
3. Diving Medicine.
4. The Future of EDTC.
5. Activities of the Executive Board.
6. EDTC External Conf.
- 7 Any other business.



Topic and Key Comments		Group				
		1	2	3	4&5	6
1	Diving Safety:					
	Team size and structure	X			X	
	SCUBA not permitted	X				
	Use of Full Face mask	X				
	Liveboating restrictions	X				
	DDC Requirements on site	X			X	
	Medical support required on site	X	X	X	X	
	Dealing with emergency events	X				
	Use of helmet mounted cameras	X				
	Template for operational reporting		X			
	Training standards to be achieved			X		
	Close gaps in responsibilities					X
2	Diving Technology:					
	Close cycle breathing equipment	X				
	Use of diving computers	X				
	Presentations about new technology		X			X
	Less focus on training, more Tech.		X			
	Hyperbaric evacuation				X	
3	Diving Medicine:					
	Use of Tele-Medicine	X				
	Database of EU Doctors	X				
	Min number of DMT's required	X				
	EDTC Dive Doctor database	X				
	Recognition of Medical Advisers			X		
	Extend guidance on Med Training.				X	
4	The Future of EDTC:					
	Improve EDTC Web Page	X				
	EDTC To compile statistics		X			
	Provide High level guidance only		X			
	Publish Conference Details on Website		X			
	Improve recognition and credibility					
	Website to include tech improvements					X
5	EDTC Executive Board:					
	Revise 2003 guidelines				X	
	Promote EU Diving Legislation				X	
	Plan for the future Membership					
	Conference during Festival EU 2015					X
6	External Conference:					
	There is a need to hold one	X				
	Joint conference with others		X			
	Conference on EU renewables				X	
	Fund conference by exhibitors					X
7	Any other Business:					
	Why do only some members attend?		X			
	More publicity of EDTC activities.			X		
	Encourage greater attendance.				X	

The table attached seeks to summarise the key matters that were discussed in each group. For ease of viewing the areas where similar matters have been raised in more than group are highlighted, suggesting these are matters that should consider being prioritised.

Whilst attempting to précis all the items raised in a short sharp summary is particularly challenging, it can be surmised that EDTC Is perceived by a significant number of its members as the right Committee to progress and enhance the standing of the Professional Diving sector within the European Community.

Further interpretation of the information and comments that back up the summary table, would indicate that EDTC Members are seeking to see the Committee be more active in promoting a broad range of matters, however the current way in which EDTC is structured and the limited to which has access will inevitably result a continuation of the slow pace that has been the pattern over recent years.

Looking specifically at one matter that was to be discussed at the 2012 annual meeting, should EDTC seek to hold an external conference. If the output from the working groups is to be taken as the view of wider members, the answer would be that EDTC should seek to hold an external conference, probably to coincide with activities planned by other parties that have similar arrangements.

Member Country and Groups Represented by EDTC

				
Austria	Belgium	Croatia	Czech Republic	Denmark
				
Estonia	Finland	France	Germany	Italy
				
Latvia	Netherlands	Norway	Poland	Portugal
				
Spain	Slovak Republic	Sweden	Switzerland	Turkey
			International Diving Regulators Forum	
United Kingdom	IMCA	IDSA	IDRF	ADC

Seasons Greetings

The Chairman and Board of EDTC
extend seasons greetings to all Members
of EDTC.



2012 has been a challenging year for
everyone in the European Community,
lets all hope that things start to improve
in 2013 and beyond.

