

# training bulletin update

For PADI Europe Members

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A Training and Education  
Update from PADI International  
and PADI Europe  
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## IMPORTANT

### training bulletin required reading!

This update is the main communication from PADI to you. It announces important training standards and procedures changes and clarifies those that are established. It is a requirement of your membership commitment that you keep abreast of standards by reviewing the information contained in these quarterly updates. Implementation and standards mailing dates vary for members served by different PADI Offices, based, in part, on translation schedules. Check with your PADI Office for more specific information.



## Integrating Digital Underwater Photography With Other Continuing Education Course Dives

The Digital Underwater Photographer Specialty Course Instructor Outline explains how you can integrate the Level 1 digital Photo Dive with the tour portion of Open Water Diver course Dive 4 (provided that the student has completed all of the skills for all four Open Water Diver course dives).

Because digital photography is so popular and has tremendous potential to keep people interested in diving, start including a Level 1 digital Photo Dive along with your PADI continuing education courses as well. For example, during the Rescue Diver course you might take a break from confined water or open water rescue exercises and conduct a separate Level 1 digital Photo Dive. Since you can conduct Level 1 in confined water or open water, you can teach it any time and provide a fun experience for your divers with digital photos to prove it.

You can extend this concept by integrating the Level 1 digital Photo Dive into any continuing education open water training dive as long as no other allowed program (like Enriched Air Diver) is being integrated into the same dive at the same time. In this example, you could integrate the Level 1 digital Photo Dive performance requirements into any Adventure Dive, as long as that dive is not already being combined with the PADI Enriched Air Dive 1 or 2.

Divers who learn how to take good underwater photographs preserve the fun experience, and are more likely to share that experience (via their photos) with others.

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## Successful Digital Underwater Photographer Workshop – Clarification

Some PADI Offices are conducting “Successful Digital Underwater Photographer workshops” that give you practical tips and suggestions on how easy it is to make digital underwater photography a thriving component of your dive business. In some cases, these programs include, or are conducted in conjunction with, specialty instructor training through which you can qualify for the specialty instructor rating. However, since not all of these programs include instructor training, it’s best to verify seminar content with your PADI Office prior to attending.

Keep this in mind when reading the segment in the Digital Underwater Photographer Specialty Instructor Outline that states that one of the methods of becoming a Digital Underwater Photographer Specialty Instructor is to attend a Successful Digital Underwater Photographer workshop conducted by PADI.

When Successful Digital Underwater Photographer workshops conducted in your area do not include instructor training, PADI Divemasters, Assistant Instructors and Instructors may qualify for the specialty instructor rating by participating in a Specialty Instructor Training Course conducted by a PADI Course Director.

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## Ten Environmental Tips For Underwater Photographers

If you’re teaching underwater photography, visit [www.projectaware.org](http://www.projectaware.org) to download Project AWARE’s 10 Tips for Underwater Photographers. They will help you and your student divers be mindful of the under water environment when taking photos to avoid damaging to our fragile aquatic world.

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## Rescue Diver Performance Requirement Adjusted For Flexibility

Rescue Exercise 3: Response from shore, boat or dock (responsive diver) – skill conduct suggests that students should role-play rescuers respond, without scuba, to distressed divers and take appropriate action. In this exercise, it really doesn’t matter if rescuers have scuba equipment on or not, as rescue situations and circumstances will vary. For this reason, future editions of the Rescue Diver Course Instructor Guide will delete the words “without scuba” in this reference. (Reference Rescue Diver Course Instructor Guide, Section Three, Rescue Exercise Three, Conduct, letter “d.”.)

In this exercise students learn to be flexible by responding with or without scuba depending on training logistics and the diving scenarios found locally. It encourages students to think like rescuers and respond to an emergency with a flexible approach.

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## Student Diver Counts Online – Category Change Cuts Confusion

One of the benefits of being a PADI Member is that you have access to your professional information 24 hours/7 days a week by accessing *My PADI Information* on [padi.com/Pros' area/Members' Toolbox](http://padi.com/Pros' area/Members' Toolbox). You can review your contact information, professional dive credentials and student diver counts. The student counts section is useful to verify your qualifications for PADI Master Scuba Diver Trainer, Master Instructor or Course Director. A recent formatting revision makes your student diver counts easier to read and interpret.

The revised *Student Counts Online* page has the following categories:

1. **Professional Certifications** – Accounts for all professional level certifications (PADI Divemaster and above).
2. **Diving Certifications** – Accounts for all core certifications that require dives as part of the course (PADI Open Water Diver, Adventure Diver, Advanced Open Water Diver, Rescue Diver, etc.).
3. **Specialties – with dives** – Accounts for all specialties that require dives as part of the course (Deep Diver, Underwater Navigator, etc.).
4. **Specialties – without dives** – Accounts for all specialties that do not require dives as part of the course (Project AWARE, Equipment Specialist, etc.).
5. **Dive Experience** – Accounts for all experience level programs that do not result in a scuba diving certification (PADI Discover Scuba Diving, PADI Discover Snorkeling, PADI Seal Team, PADI Skin Diver, etc.).
6. **Emergency Care and Safety** – Accounts for all Emergency First Response courses.

Each category shows a total for the current year, past year and previous years at the bottom of the field. You'll also see a total at the end of the report representing student diving certifications only (Diving Certifications and Specialties – with Dives). To determine the total number of certifications you've issued, simply add the total *diving certifications* to the total specialties without dives.

*Note: If you have counts under the Dive Experience category and want to apply them toward other ratings, follow the directions shown at the bottom of the category.*

Make use of this convenient PADI Member benefit. If you have questions, please contact your PADI Office.

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## Questions

**Q** If a diver takes the PADI Enriched Air Adventure Dive during a PADI Advanced Open Water Diver Course, does the diver need to have **all** required materials for the Enriched Air Diver course (PADI *Enriched Air Diver Manual* (metric or imperial), DSAT Equivalent Air Depth Table (metric or imperial), DSAT Oxygen Exposure Table, and Enriched Air Recreational Dive Planners for EANx32 and EANx36 (metric or imperial)?

**A** Yes, divers taking the Enriched Air Adventure Dive must have a personal set of materials (as listed above) and complete the Knowledge Review, before the dive can be credited toward the PADI Adventure Diver, Advanced Open Water Diver and the Enriched Air Diver courses.

As the PADI Enriched Air Diver course deals with complex theoretical concepts and scientific formulas it is vital that divers have this material during the course and are able to refer to it after the course is completed.



**Q** What are acceptable techniques for completing neutral buoyancy skills in Open Water Diver course Dives Two and Three?

**A** The fin pivot is one technique; another option is to have the student diver demonstrate buoyancy control by hovering while referencing a specific visual reference (e. g. a vertical line). Hovering works especially well when conducting skills on a silty bottom.

The Second Quarter 1999 *Training Bulletin* announced a modification of Performance Requirement 7 in both Open Water Dive 2 (Buoyancy Control with low pressure inflator: Achieve neutral buoyancy by inflating the BCD (or dry suit if used) with the low pressure inflator) and Dive 3 (Buoyancy Control by oral inflation: Achieve and maintain neutral buoyancy by inflating the BCD orally). In both skills, reference to "fin pivot" was removed to allow for other techniques.

## **Instructor Development: 2007 IDC Revision – What’s Coming?**

The industry's most successful instructor training program, the PADI IDC, has been updated to incorporate new technologies, teaching philosophies and changes to PADI programs. These changes will be discussed during the upcoming PADI Course Director Updates beginning in November in Orlando, FL, USA. The nature of the revisions (including open water evaluation criteria changes), make update attendance mandatory for all PADI Course Directors who want to retain their Course Director Teaching Status for 2007 and beyond.

For PADI Americas territory, the required implementation date for the revised IDC curriculum is 1 March 2007. Other PADI offices will announce their required implementation dates as and when translated material becomes available and Course Director Updates are scheduled in those territories. PADI Europe will announce an implementation date with the ID Email that is sent out quarterly, as well as set dates for Update events. The update will not be mandatory for PADI IDC Staff Instructors, although it is highly recommended – especially for those who are active in the instructor development business. Course Directors should take note and ensure that IDC Staff Instructors working with them have the most updated information.

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### **New and Revised Exams**

There have been changes to the PADI Divemaster Exams – access the PADI Pros' Area, Members' Toolbox, Exam Revisions. If you need information on languages other than English, please contact your PADI Office to inquire about the latest versions available in your desired language.

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