

Australian Standard™

**Training and certification of recreational  
divers**

**Part 3: Assistant SCUBA instructor**

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee CS/83, Recreational Underwater Diving. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 17 January 2000 and published on 1 March 2000.

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The following interests are represented on Committee CS/83:

Australian Dive Council  
Australian Medical Association  
Australian Underwater Federation  
Australian Underwater Scuba Instructors  
British Sub-Aqua Club  
Department of Sport and Recreation, N.S.W.  
Department of Employment, Training and Industrial Relations, Qld  
Dive Queensland  
Divers Alert Network SE Asia-Pacific  
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National Association of Scuba Diving Schools Australasia  
Nau Services Australia  
PADI Asia Pacific  
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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee CS/83, Recreational Underwater Diving.

The Standard was prepared in response to a need to clearly differentiate between the training requirements for occupational divers working in the recreational SCUBA diving industry and those for other occupational SCUBA divers. The Standard is based on the American Recreational Scuba Training Council Minimum Course Content for Recreational Assistant SCUBA Instructor Certification (10 February 1991).

While Part 1 of the AS 4005 series covers entry-level recreational SCUBA diver training, this Part and Parts 2, 4 and 5 are for SCUBA divers who have progressed to supervise or teach others. The Committee acknowledges that the course described in this Standard is also undertaken by recreational divers wishing to continue their diving education.

Additional training for other special types of recreational diving may also be required in addition to certification as an assistant instructor if the diver is to assist in the teaching of specialty diving activities. Some of these specialties are cavern, deep, ice and night diving, underwater naturalist and underwater photography.

The Parts in the AS 4005 series are as follows:

- Part 1: Minimum entry-level SCUBA diving
- Part 2: Recreational SCUBA dive supervisor
- Part 3: Assistant SCUBA instructor (this Standard)
- Part 4: SCUBA instructor
- Part 5: SCUBA instructor trainer

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## FOREWORD

This Standard provides minimum content requirements for the training course for assistant instructors. These requirements should not be considered as specifying optimum training for assistant instructors. Instructional programs which extend beyond these requirements are, in fact, encouraged. The requirements of this Standard are meant to be comprehensive but general in nature. That is, the Standard presents all of the subject areas essential for minimum training of an assistant recreational SCUBA instructor, but it does not give a detailed listing of the skills and information encompassed by each area. It assumes that detailed course outlines which meet this Standard would be prepared by training organizations and these would include specific techniques.

Although the information categories are outlined in a given sequence, the outline should not be viewed as a lesson plan. Similarly, the requirements presented in this Standard do not indicate the emphasis which should be placed upon a particular subject area, or the manner in which the subjects are to be taught. Course outlines, lesson plans and other training aids prepared by the training organization should set out the sequencing and emphasis of a course. Decisions as to sequencing and emphasis should be made within the context of environmental factors, instructor characteristics and other relevant considerations.

An assistant SCUBA instructor is qualified to apply the knowledge and skills outlined in this Standard to assist SCUBA instructors in conducting educational and SCUBA skills training of recreational SCUBA divers, to provide limited training in the use of SCUBA under the direct supervision of a certified SCUBA instructor, and to conduct supervised diving activities.

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

**Australian Standard**

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S E C T I O N 1 S C O P E A N D G E N E R A L

**1.1 SCOPE** This Standard specifies the minimum training course content and training activities required for training and accreditation of persons who may assist a SCUBA instructor in the direction and guidance of trainees and organize and supervise recreational SCUBA dives.

NOTES:

- 1 Persons wishing to supervise or assist in the instruction of other forms of recreational diving or use equipment other than compressed air SCUBA will require training other than that covered in this Standard.
- 2 While this training is sufficient for the supervision of an individual group of divers, it may not be sufficient for the coordination of a diving operation involving several types of activities or groups of divers.

**1.2 OBJECTIVE** The objective of this Standard is to describe the organizational and syllabus requirements to train recreational SCUBA assistant instructors to operate safely and competently.

**1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS** The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS

- 2030 The verification, filling, inspection, testing and maintenance of cylinders for the storage and transport of compressed gases
- 2030.1 Part 1: Cylinders for compressed gases other than acetylene

4005 Training and certification of recreational divers

- 4005.1 Part 1: Minimum entry-level SCUBA diving
- 4005.2 Part 2: Recreational SCUBA dive supervisor
- 4005.4 Part 4: SCUBA instructor

AS/NZS

- 2299 Occupational diving operations
- 2299.1 Part 1: Standard operational practice

**1.4 DEFINITIONS** For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions below apply.

**1.4.1 Assistant SCUBA instructor**—an individual who has undergone formal training to assist a SCUBA instructor for skills training in classroom and pool or confined water sessions.

**1.4.2 Certified dive supervisor**—an individual who has undergone formal training to plan and conduct supervised SCUBA diving activities.

NOTE: AS 4005.2 covers training of dive supervisors.