

**Scripps Institution of Oceanography  
Research Diving Program  
Dive Computer Policy**

Approved at the 10 October 2001 Diving Control Board Meeting.

Manual for Diving Safety Revision

Replace Section 5.37 with the latest AAUS Guidelines

Delete those located in Appendix D. (Items 9, 10, 13 are revised)

- The AAUS Guidelines are the basic policy.
- Diving Control Board will review and approve specific dive computers according to AAUS Guidelines. All modern dive computers will generally be approved provided THEY ARE USED ACCORDING TO MANUFACTURER GUIDELINES and there exists support from either the manufacturer or other reliable means where any problems or recalls of a particular model can be determined.
- Diving Officer will keep track of each dive computer make and model used by each research diver.
- The initial dive computer checkout will be with a specific make and model used by the individual research diver. After the initial checkout, the research diver may use other dive computers providing make and model are reported within 30 days to the Diving Officer which will be reviewed at the next DCB meeting.
- Diving Officer will develop training and testing procedures with DCB members initially.

No specific Dive Computers are recommended.

Here are some recommended features to consider:

1. Ascent rate monitor, 30 feet/minute. Is it variable? Does it display a warning if too fast?
2. Dive log function to review previous dives: depth, time, surface interval
3. No on/off switch which could cause data loss
4. Display depth, time, max. depth, remaining No-Decompression time, tissue loading.
5. Understand 'violation modes' where the computer turns into a depth gauge for 24 hours if certain limits are exceeded. There is no recommendation here except to understand that some dive computers such as the Oceanic Prodigy have this 'feature'.
6. Low battery indicator
7. Time to Fly mode, computer tracks time after last dive for 12-24 hours.

Other personal preferences to consider:

8. Cost
9. Ease of use
10. Replaceable battery which is readily available
11. Downloadable to a computer
12. Air Integrated