



MANAGEMENT SYSTEM MANUAL

OCN 7.9.3 R/V OCEANUS DIVE OPERATIONS

Originator:	Approved By:
Lawrence T. Bearse	Joe Coburn

1. Purpose

The purpose of this procedure is to set forth the standards for Diving Operations aboard the R/V Oceanus.

2. Responsibility

The Master is tasked with the ultimate authority and responsibility to ensure that all reasonable measures are undertaken to promote a safe diving operation. The Master may cancel or postpone dive operations if it is deemed prudent to do so.

3. References

UNOLS Safety Manual

4. General

Safety procedures are outlined and set forth in the UNOLS Safety Manual. All diving operations will conform to established and accepted practices and requirements. The Diving Safety Officer will provide in writing to the ship's Master an approved dive plan for the voyage. The plan will list those persons who are authorized to dive and will include any special conditions which may apply including, but not limited to, night dives. The Chief Scientist or his/her designee will assure that the all divers and other persons involved adhere to the plan and observe established procedures. The Chief Scientist or designee will provide the bridge with an emergency assistance check list for the general area the diving is to take place. The list will include location and phone numbers of the following:

- a. Recompression chamber facilities
 1. USCG Medevac Info
 2. DAN facilities
 3. Hospitals & Physicians
 4. Other applicable emergency numbers
- b. Additionally, the following should be made available to the ships medical officer:
 1. Diving accident management flow chart
 2. DAN* dive accident reporting form

* Divers Alert Network, Duke University Medical Center

The ship will normally provide the dive operation with a small boat and operator. The ship's Watch Officer will require the boat operator to report which divers are in the boat. Their names will be noted and checked against the approved list prior to commencing dive operation.



MANAGEMENT SYSTEM MANUAL

OCN 7.9.3 R/V OCEANUS DIVE OPERATIONS

Originator:	Approved By:
Lawrence T. Bearse	Joe Coburn

The boat operator will act as the surface safety observer and lookout and will report via VHF to the ship's Watch Officer when the divers are in the water and when they are safely back aboard.

The ship's Watch Officer will display appropriate required day/night signals for diving as well as restricted in ability to maneuver as required. A minimum 2-mile CPA will be required of all vessels and voice communications will be established with approaching vessels in order to reach an agreement of understanding as to the nature of our work as soon as possible.

In the event that a close quarters situation develops or, if in the opinion of the Watch Officer, conditions are becoming unsafe for whatever reason, he will notify the boat operator to recall the divers and return to the ship immediately. If for any reason voice communications via VHF fail a signal of five short blasts on the ships whistle shall signify recall and return.

All equipment and gear attendant to the dive operation such as compressors, vans, regulators, tanks, masks, diving computers and all other such gear and equipment needed or used in support of dive operations will conform with all safety standards. Relevant certificates, test data and records, as well as authentic labels and data plates, shall be made available for review and confirmation to the Chief Mate/Boatswain/Chief Engineer to ensure compliance with all applicable requirements.