



COMPENDIUM OF
INDIAN STANDARDS
ON

DIVING SERVICES

Prepared by:

**SERVICE SECTOR
DEPARTMENT**



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NEW DELHI**

INTRODUCTION

This compendium is collection of Indian Standards published so far in the field of Diving services, which form an integral part of the broader travel, tourism, and hospitality sectors. Diving services encompass a wide range of activities including scuba diving training, guided excursions, snorkelling, and environmental awareness programs.

The standards covered in this compendium outline requirements and guidelines for training programmes for recreational scuba divers, training of scuba instructors, instructor qualifications, conduct of Snorkelling excursions, enriched air nitrox (EAN) diving, gas blender training, sustainable practices in recreational diving, environmental awareness for recreational divers etc.

These standards are formulated by Travel, Tourism and Hospitality Related Services Sectional Committee (SSD 02) of BIS

Indian Standards on Diving Services

1. IS 16442 (Part 1):2016 Recreational Diving Services — Requirements for the Training of Recreational Scuba Divers Part 1 Level 1 — Supervised Diver

A **Level 1 Supervised Diver** is allowed to dive to a maximum depth of **12 meters**, under **direct supervision**, with no more than **four divers per dive leader**.

This standard specifies the requirements of competencies of a scuba diver of **Level 1** in order to obtain a scuba diver qualification from a training organization and specifies evaluation criteria for these competencies.

2. IS 16442 (Part 2):2016 Recreational Diving Services — Requirements for the Training of Recreational Scuba Divers

A **Level 2 Autonomous Diver** is trained to plan and conduct dives independently with a qualified buddy, following established safety protocols. Divers are qualified to dive up to **20 meters**, manage equipment, maintain buoyancy, monitor air supply, execute emergency procedures, and communicate underwater. Training also includes recognizing environmental hazards and managing stress.

This standard specifies the competencies required of a scuba diver of level 2 in order to obtain a scuba diver qualification from a training organization and specifies evaluation criteria for these competencies.

3. IS 16442 (Part 3):2016 Recreational Diving Services — Requirements for the Training of Recreational Scuba Divers

A **Level 3 Dive Leader** is qualified to plan, organize, and lead dives independently, ensuring diver safety, communication, and emergency preparedness. Diver must be certified **Level 2 Autonomous Divers**, provide **medical fitness documentation**, and have **documented**

experience in night/limited visibility diving, deep diving, and navigation.

This standard specifies the competencies required of a scuba diver of level 3 in order to obtain a scuba diver qualification from a training organization and specifies evaluation criteria for these competencies.

4. IS 16441 (Part 1):2017 Recreational Diving Services — Requirements for the Training of Scuba Instructors

A **Level 1 Scuba Instructor** is qualified to **teach and assess Level 1 (Supervised Diver)** candidates in theory and confined water skills, conduct confined water sessions for all diver levels, and gain supervised experience in open-water instruction under a Level 2 Instructor.

This standard specifies the competencies required of a scuba instructor of level 1 in order to obtain a scuba instructor qualification from a training organization and specifies evaluation criteria for these competencies.

5. IS 16441 (Part 2):2021 Recreational Diving Services — Requirements for the Training of Scuba Instructors

A **Level 2 Scuba Instructor**, candidates must hold a **Level 3 (Dive Leader)** certification, gain additional experience, and be medically fit. They must demonstrate high-level **scuba skills**, teach theory and in-water lessons, manage training sessions, and pass an exam on dive theory and instruction.

This standard specifies the competencies required of a scuba instructor in order to obtain a **scuba instructor qualification from a training organization** and specifies evaluation criteria for these competencies.

6. IS/ISO 11121:2017 - Recreational Diving Services — Requirements for Introductory Programmes to Scuba Diving

The standard outlines the minimum content requirements for training organizations offering introductory scuba experiences in recreational scuba diving. The guidelines apply specifically to programs that involve participants entering an open water environment.

7. IS/ISO 13289:2011 - Recreational Diving Services — Requirements for the Conduct of Snorkelling Excursions

The standard outlines the requirements for **supervised snorkelling excursions** in open water environments to ensure safety and structure. It defines the responsibilities of service providers, participant requirements, supervision standards, and emergency procedures.

8. IS/ISO 11107:2009 Recreational Diving Services — Requirements for Training Programmes on Enriched Air Nitrox (EAN) Diving

The standard defines the required competence level for a scuba diver to obtain an **Enriched Air Nitrox (EAN) certification** from a training organization. It also outlines the conditions for delivering this training, supplementing the general requirements for recreational diving services specified in IS/ISO 24803.

9. IS/ISO 24803:2017 Recreational Diving Services — Requirements for Recreational Diving Providers

The standard sets out requirements for service providers involved in **recreational scuba diving** and **Snorkelling excursions**. It covers five key service areas: introductory diving activities, Snorkelling excursions, training and education, guided dives for certified divers, and equipment rental. The standard defines the expected nature and quality of services delivered to clients.

10. IS/ISO 13293:2012 Recreational Diving Services — Requirements for Gas Blender Training Programmes

The standard defines the requirements for **gas blender training programs** and the competencies individuals must demonstrate to receive a gas blender certification from a training organization. It establishes two qualification levels: Level 1 and Level 2 gas blender. The standard also enables training programs to be structured and delivered modularly.

11. IS/ISO 21416:2019 Recreational Diving Services — Requirements and Guidance on Environmentally Sustainable Practices in Recreational Diving

The standard establishes requirements and provides guidance for service providers in implementing **environmentally sustainable practices** within recreational diving services. It applies broadly to activities such as scuba diving, Snorkelling, and freediving (breath-hold diving). The aim is to support responsible service provision that minimizes negative impacts on the aquatic environment and enhances positive environmental outcomes.

12. IS/ISO 21417:2019 Recreational Diving Services — Requirements for Training on Environmental Awareness for Recreational Divers

The standard defines the requirements for training programmes aimed at educating participants on environmental awareness and sustainable practices in recreational diving. These programmes include a theoretical component and may offer an optional practical water session to reinforce learning through direct experience.

*For further details of these Indian Standards, please visit **KNOW YOUR STANDARD** section of BIS website using the following link:*

https://www.services.bis.gov.in/php/BIS_2.0/bisconnect/knownyourstandards/indian_standards/indian_standards/details