

PSD Hazmat Diver

The purpose of the "PSD Hazmat Diver" Specialty Diver course is to make Public Safety Divers and Public Safety Surface Support Specialists familiar with the appropriate procedures for diving in environments which may contain hazardous materials beyond the usual range encountered in public safety diving operations, where special precautions must be taken to reduce and mitigate the risks of exposure to these materials. The training shall include both theoretical and practical sections.

Due to its nature, the course is intended for Public Safety Diver units, both government and volunteer units, e.g. police, fire departments, civil defense, lifeguard organizations, coastguards, etc. The course is generally designed for groups, with each participant acting once in each role. If, exceptionally, the course is conducted on a one-to-one basis, it is the instructor's responsibility to ensure that the student meets all performance requirements.

The course is neither intended to teach any new diving techniques, nor to familiarize the divers with the required diving equipment. The qualification to use the required equipment (e.g dry suits, FFM's or even diving helmets) is a prerequisite for this course.

The course is intended to be conducted over three days. On day one the theoretical development and the workshop "Standard Operating Procedures and operation planning for Hazmat Diving" shall be conducted. Days two and three are for the practical development. During the practical development no dives are required, because the focus of this development is on pre-dive preparations and post-dive decontamination and related procedures.

The goals of PSD Hazmat Diver training are to:

1. To develop the knowledge of students, in terms of theory and principles of hazmat diving.
2. To enable students to plan, organize and perform dives in hazmat environment.
3. To acquaint students with the equipment required for hazmat diving.
4. To encourage students to participate in other specialty training.

Prerequisites:

To qualify for the PSD Hazmat Diver course, an individual must:

1. Be certified as a PADI Public Safety Diver, a PADI Dry Suit Diver and a PADI Full Face Mask Diver or having qualifying certification

For non-divers the prerequisite is a certification as PADI PSD Surface Support Specialist or having a qualifying certification from another training organization.

2. Be at least 18 years old.