



DIVESHOP



Shine A Light

JMD TECHNOLOGIES has sent its latest torch, the B5060 Umbilical Torch, for us to try and very nice it is too. Although I expect the techies at JMD, and you, would like me to say a bit more than that.

Like everything this company make, it looks great. It's made from shiny black anodised aluminium and solidly built; it has all the hallmarks of the best in British engineering.

The battery pack is attached to the cylinder by a stainless steel bracket on the cam band. The battery pack has a spring loaded release which is precise and easy to use. There is a knurled bung with double o-rings which gives access to the charging point.

The one supplied came with a smart quick charger that takes three to four hours to recharge the 12v ni-mh battery pack giving a burn time of 60mins. I've done four dives with it the shortest 50mins and the longest 64mins and it was still burning at the end of each dive. If you need a longer burn time you can link one or more battery packs, useful for technical divers who may be tempted by this torch as it has a 150m depth rating.

At the other end of the cable is a substantial lamp-head with a

generous handle that sits comfortably in even the biggest of hands (like mine). The light source is a conventional 50W Xenophot halogen bulb which should last for ages but is not too expensive to replace. Replacement is done by unscrewing the outer ring.

You turn it on by rotating the knurled inner ring at the end of the handle; this also changes the beam from a broad beam to a tighter spot. I think most people will stick to the conventional spot as the wider beam has something of a dull patch in the centre of the beam.

Although the battery pack is quite heavy, you can take a weight off your belt; the lamp-holder is quite light and can be hung from a D-ring. When hooking it all up I thought it might be a bit cumbersome but that's not the case, in use I actually found it quite tidy and very bright. At £290 it is slightly more than half the price of its rivals so pretty good value for such a well made, good looking and powerful torch.

Contact JMD Technologies on 01751476972 or visit www.jmdtechnologies.co.uk *photo courtesy of Gordon McSkimming*

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Sea & Sea's New Digital



SEA & SEA'S new 10 mega pixel compact digital camera with 26MB internal memory is available from August.

The DX-1G is probably one of the best compact camera/housing ever, offering a fast start-up and a 2.5" LCD screen and a lens that is 24mm to 72mm allowing macro down to 1cm. In conjunction with a wide angle lens (sold separately) ultimate macro capability can be achieved down to zero cms.

The camera also provides a vibration correction facility for clear shots and RAW files for optimisation of images.

There is also 'Sea & Sea Mode' which is a function that enhances underwater performance. The case is rated to 50 metres and all the camera functions are available underwater. For more information visit: www.seaandsea.com.

New Dive Timer From Scubapro



BUILDING ON the original, world renowned dive timer launched in 1989, this new evolution - the Digital 330m - has been updated with Uwatec's latest, most advanced dive computer technology.

The existing dive information is integrated with an instrument that displays depths up to 330m, calculates average depth during the dive and displays the ascent rate in metres/minute. The Digital 330m will cater to technical divers as much as new divers looking for essential dive information.

So what's new on the Digital 330m? It displays average depth alternating with temperature and also displays ascent speed in metres per minute and features a warning arrow should you ascend too fast.

It is rated to a maximum depth of 330m and the maximum displayed bottom time is 999 hours and 59min. The Digital 330m is more efficient and consumes less power than the previous model.

Equally relevant to technical divers and beginners or as a back up instrument - the Digital 330m is an

easy to use electronic instrument which, unique in its segment, offers perfect accuracy in all diving conditions and certainly is a valuable companion for safe diving.

It is available as a traditional wrist mounted gauge, 2/1 or 3-In-Line consoles with FS-1 Compass and Uwatec 400 Bar SPG, or integrated into the Navigation Slate with FS-1 Compass and large angled writing board for easy navigation and depth monitoring.

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www.scubapro.co.uk

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Innovation Award For Apeks



APEKS MARINE Equipment, the British diving regulator manufacturer, has won a prestigious award in the Innovations Showcase - Diving and Underwater Technology category during the Seawork 2007 International Exhibition in Southampton.

The award was presented to Apeks for the new Tek3 1st stage regulator. The Tek3 satisfies the specific requirements of the technical diving market and is presently the only regulator that caters for these demanding needs, it reduces the long-recognised danger of gas hoses being snagged during use by having all

the hose ports directed downwards towards the cylinders. This enables all the hoses to be routed optimally around the cylinders and buoyancy compensator. As can be seen in the picture, the hoses are extremely neat and safe from snagging thereby increasing significantly overall diver safety.

The Diving section of the Seawork exhibition is primarily directed at the commercial diving industry and Apeks have joined forces with their sister company Aqua Lung UK to develop business in this important professional diving sector. The combined knowledge and product lines of these two major British diving companies has put them in a strong position to service and support this market.

Apeks and Aqua Lung UK are members of the Aqua Lung family of brands. Collectively the Aqua Lung group has extensive reach in the global diving and life support markets, particularly in the important Military & Professional Operations sectors.

For more information visit www.apeks.co.uk

HAVE YOU ever been left sorely disappointed because lack of battery juice in your underwater camera has meant that you have missed out on the opportunity to shoot some elusive sea creature or other?



This scenario could soon be a thing of the past thanks to the new powermonkey-eXplorer - a new and invaluable piece of kit that can provide essential power in the most remote locations.

Thanks to the new solar-slave it allows you to recharge a variety of devices wherever and whenever. The powermonkey-eXplorer is compatible with the majority of mobile phones, iPods, MP3/MP4, PDAs, portable games consoles and many standard digital cameras (long enough to take another 1600 shots!).

Ultra compact, tough and powerful, powermonkey-eXplorer is water resistant and made from a very tough rubberised casing. Despite these durable qualities it remains a very light and versatile charger.

The solar-slave derives power from the sun meaning that you can achieve free power wherever you are and ensure that the powermonkey has a full charge at all times.

For more information on this extremely handy piece of kit visit www.powermonkey-explorer.com

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