

DIVESHOP



The 'Bug Eye' Mask



ONE OF our club members recently phones me for 'a professional opinion'. My heart usually sinks when people do this out of hours ... I'm an optician, but when he assured me this was a diving matter I was interested.

The story was that Martin had seen an advert for a mask which would solve his problem (the problem being that he has only one functioning eye). When diving with him you have to stay on his right - otherwise he loses sight of you!

The HydroOptics MEGA 4.5 DD Mask promises to: "Provide an enhanced field of view, to restore natural perspective and to eliminate magnification effects." Quite a claim, and Martin wanted to know if it was warranted.

It has been about 37 years since

I studied Geometrical Optics, so I had to think long and hard to reach a conclusion, but the explanation goes something like this ...

When a ray of light passes from one medium to another (in our case air/water) the ray is bent at the junction of the two media. This bending effect is not a constant and the greater the angle at which the ray of light hits the junction, the greater the bending effect. In relation to a conventional flat lens diving mask, this means that on looking straight ahead, objects appear at their correct size and distance.

However, as the diver turns his eye to look obliquely through the mask objects on the periphery of his vision appear larger and closer. The more oblique the angle of gaze, the greater the magnification.

We have all seen that giant crab we caught sight of out the corner of our eye, shrink, as we turn to face it! This refraction of light also acts to restrict our peripheral visual field, hence Martin's problem - one eye and restricted visual field when diving.

The 'Bug Eye' mask attempts to solve these problems by getting rid of the flat lens, by employing two plastic hemispheres moulded together to form the mask lens. The theory is that is the centre of the hemispherical lens is aligned with the centre of rotation of the eyeball, then no matter which direction the diver looks, he will be looking through the air/water interface at right angles.

**Alasdair Reid
Kilmarnock SAC**

Luxury Diving In Everflex

SCUBAPRO HAS just launched their newly restyled EverFlex suits; lots of new features and a great new look and feel that divers will love.

Perfect for winter get-aways, the advanced, extra-comfortable EverFlex line has been stylishly redesigned for Winter 2008 to give an even better fit and additional freedom. Many of the tried and tested features of previous models are included, but EverFlex is now in a preformed dimensional shape, so it fits and moves more naturally with a diver's body delivering unparalleled comfort, stretch and flexibility.

Heliospan lining has been added to the torso area and Glideskin seals to the wrists, ankles and neck of all

steamers, providing more protection, insulation and overall comfort. The 7/5mm and 5/4mm steamers now have ankle zippers, making thicker versions easier to don.

Scubapro is sensitive to the fact that that divers want comfort and quality for all water temperatures and so they have introduced a new 3/2mm thickness to their line - the perfect luxury companion for holiday diving, or any time of the year in tropical and warm waters. It also packs up nicely for light-weight travel.

This suit is a great gift item - but you may not be able to resist buying it for yourself. For more information on the new EverFlex suits visit: www.scubapro.com





Fancy A Quicky

EVERY YEAR the kind people at Quicktide send **SCOTTISH DIVER** the latest version of their easy to use ready reckoner for working out tide times in any part of Scotland. And very welcome it is too.

Last year my dive buddy Gordon forgot to look up the tide times for a dive trip, so I lent him my Quicktide which he has always dismissed as a not very accurate gimmicky toy. Reluctantly he used it and that was the last I saw of it.

Fortunately Quicktide covers two years so I still had one for 2007 but not for 2008. Well my new one is for 2008/2009 so I'm ok for a couple of years.

For those who have not read my yearly review Quicktide is to repeat a very easy to use little device. The ready reckoner works out tide times for all parts of Scotland.

Here's the drill - look up a date on the back and this will give you a letter like D4. Now turn the disc till D4 matches the colour code for your chosen part of the coast and read off the times of high and low tide. Easy peasy!

So this guide to the tides around our coast is ideal for planning trips however there will be local variations you may need to find out about.

For more information or to purchase online visit: www.quicktide.co.uk
Jack Morrison

Leviathan Manufacturing Delayaid

LEVIATHAN INTERNATIONAL has taken over the delayedaid from Forty 4 Diving Equipment Ltd. Andrew Hamill of Leviathan said:

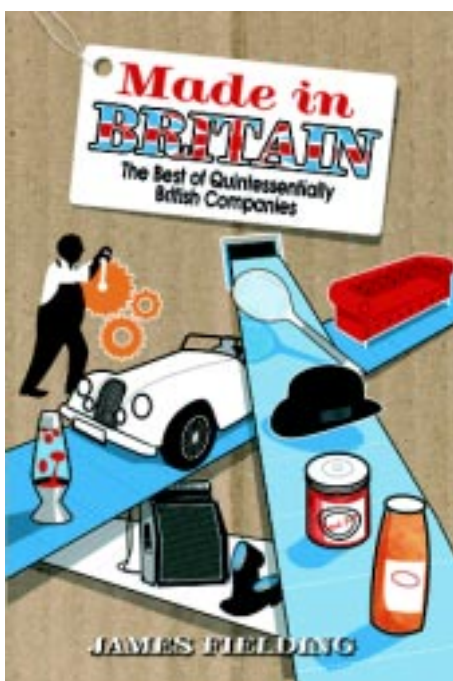
"It is a pleasure to be manufacturing the delayedaid because it is so small and compact and really is a unique system that makes the deployment of delayed surface marker buoys incredibly simple."

So that you can see just how easy it is to use there is a video link at www.leviathan-int.com.

Beaver Sports are the only UK distributor for the delayedaid. It has been a great year

for Leviathan as in May they launched an emergency repair suit facility for divers visiting Scapa Flow which was an instant success because it meant divers need not miss out on a day's diving.

Leviathan has been manufacturing quality products for the scuba industry since 1999 and are always on the lookout for new products. If you have an idea for a new product or wish to know more about Leviathan call Andy on 01856 851002 or email: andy@leviathan-int.com or visit www.leviathan-int.com



British Is Best

IT IS ALWAYS nice to be appreciated as those at Seapro UK discovered recently after being included in the book 'Made in Britain - The Best of Quintessentially British Companies'.

The book is a celebration of British manufacturing and tells in words and photographs the histories of over 75 companies, including Seapro UK and other familiar brands such as Marmite, Mathmos, Innocent Smoothies and Walkers Shortbread.

Gerald Greenaway said of their inclusion: "We had no part in the selection of our company to be

reviewed in this book, they just received one of our general catalogues. However we were delighted to be highlighted.

"A book celebrating UK companies is very apt in this day and age. Global competition means that every company has to maintain a high standard to survive.

"A book like this encourages the public to support British industry in any way it can."

If you would like to know more about Seapro UK then visit: www.greenawaymarine.com