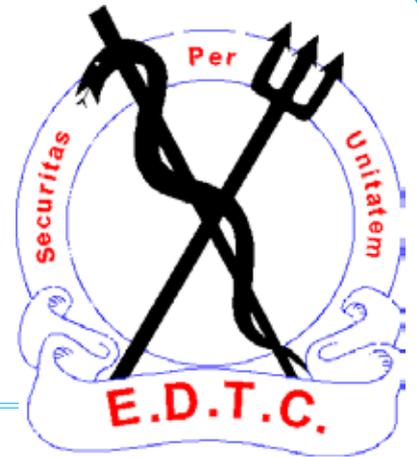


European Diving Technology Committee



Issue 4 - Sept 2013



Annual Meeting in Istanbul, 12 and 13th September 2013



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NEWSLETTER

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A Letter from the Chairman



The past year has been very active with the Executive Board having held several meetings, discussions and teleconference gatherings. The direction EDTC is now taking as a more proactive organisation has started to show positive signs of beneficial progress.

Of particular note is the activities of the “renewable” workgroup. During 2013 it has been able to develop a guidance document that is probably the fast-

est document produced in the history of EDTC. Review drafts of this document has attracted much attention all over the diving community in Europe and well beyond.

The attention that this document has raised highlights the importance of EDTC and the direction we are taking for the future. The 2012 Oslo meeting set out what the members expect the organisation to provide, and that was quite clear – MORE GUIDANCE....

Providing guidance as has been shown with the development of the renewable document, corresponds with the overall aim of EDTC; - to be an independent European forum.

Being independent means that we can together revise and update our internal documents and recommendations at whatever speed we want, and further we are able to control and evolve them by internally, as changes in industry demand.

But EDTC is not a regulator, its purpose is to further encourage the use of guidance. Each member within their respective countries should seek to make use of EDTC documents to support the legislation that is applicable in their own jurisdiction.

At this point I would like to make reference to the good example that Italy has set. They have taken and used EDTC documents a step further and made reference to them to provide better and safer diving practices within their own country.

It is therefore important that we continue on the path that we have set, and it is my personal belief that the most effective way to make further progress is to continue the use of workgroups made up of dedicated members. The topics that were determined in Oslo, more than provides us with the road map for the future.

In summary, EDTC as an organisation is built upon the mutual interest and it is only with the efforts of ALL its members that it can make things change or happen.

A Summary of the EDTC Annual Meeting

For those members who attended the meeting in Istanbul, the arrival would have been a pleasant surprise, 30 degree + temperatures and almost dawn till dusk sunlight, very pleasant.

Akin and the other Turkish representatives had organised a well planned event. The pre-meeting dinner was held in a most pleasant venue with a delightful selection of food, wine and Turkish music provided throughout the evening, most enjoyable.



Galatasaray University was the venue for the meeting, and even though it was again very hot outside, the meeting room venue was pleasantly cooled, and laid out to provide a good forum for discussion.

Lunch was provided in the University dining room overlooking the Bosphorus and one of the bridges linking the West with the East. The afternoon session continued with the country reports. Of





particular interest was the update on the ongoing salvage of the Costa Concordia by Pasquale Lombardi. Pasquale explained the plans to complete the parbuckle operation that was planned to take place over the coming days, and almost on cue, the world press reported the completion of the successful operation.

One note that was included in

the summary by the Chairman indicated that the 2014 EDTC Annual meeting is expected to take place in Barcelona, Spain sometime in October. The details to be provided early in 2014.

After the completion of the meeting a very nice boat trip had been organised along the Bosphorus, kindly arranged by our host, Akin. The destination

was the Diving School of the Turkish Navy.

Soon after arrival we were given a presentation about the different disciplines of education which was combined with a walk through of the facilities, showing the range of capabilities that are available to the diving section of the Turkish Navy. As part of the visit those attending were given a demonstration dive within the chamber that was located in the centre of the building, most impressive.

To round off a very pleasant evening the members were hosted in the garden with fine drinks and nice food together with a tour of the museum facility that included several valuable historic items.

All members who attended would wish to thank Akin and his colleagues for making this a very memorable visit to Istanbul.

Diving on Renewable Projects, Guidance Document.

Throughout 2013 the working group has progressed with the development of a document that they think reflects the activities occurring across the European Community.

In preparation of the 2013 Annual meeting, a final review draft document was issued to all members for any remaining comments to be fed back to the workgroup. In the period shortly before the annual meeting only one valid comment was received and its relevance demanded that it be included in a further minor revision. It was therefore a summary of Review Draft 4 that was presented to members during the meeting.

In what turned out to be a very good discussion, a number of those present at the meeting made some additional valid comments on matters that may warrant a further review by the workgroup.

One particularly relevant comment was made by David Parkes of DCBC, although an observer at the EDTC gathering, his very valid observation on the general content of the renewable document warrants

consideration by Members. The first page of the guidance document provides a preamble that stresses EDTC is not a regulatory body and that the content of the document is provided for guidance purposes only and must be viewed in accordance with the requirements of applicable national regulation or government provided guidance. In addition the text does state that the guidance provided should be considered as 'Industry Best Practice'.

So these introductory words set the scene, in effect you can follow the code and you should be doing the right thing, as long

as the requirements do not conflict with specific matters dealt with by in country regulation, codes of practice or more specific guidance.

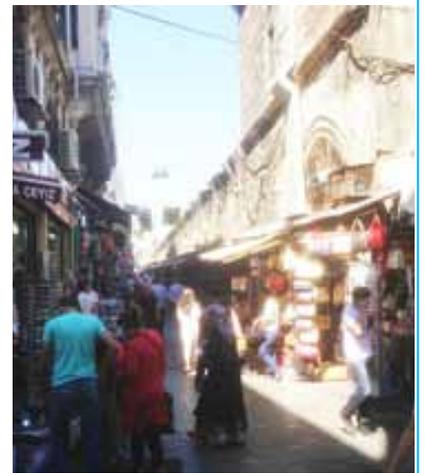
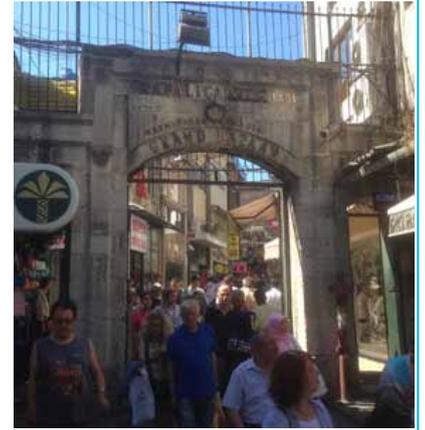
The remaining text within the guidance document should then promote the highest possible standards for each area of work scope that is covered. It is then down to those planning and carrying out the works to determine what is the most appropriate solution to their particular work needs.

But be aware, here EDTC needs to strike a balance. Moving toward a rigid and highly prescriptive content to the guidance - as some members would prefer - is likely to discourage some of the less well developed member countries to struggle with adopting the code. Taking a more goal setting direction to the guidance where individual countries are encouraged to 'up their game', continually evolving their activities as industry develops, is a more powerful way for EDTC to promote safer diving across the European Community.

In an effort to allow any remaining comments to be forwarded to the Renewable Workgroup, a final invitation to pass any comments back no later the 30th of October 2013 has been extended to all Members.

During the month of November the workgroup will convene a final review meeting to revise and update the guidance based on the comments provided, before the document is issued via the EDTC website.

Images of Istanbul



European Diving Technology Committee

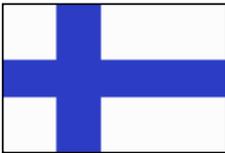
**Guidance for Diving on
Renewable Energy Projects**



*Review Draft 4 – Final Review Issue
(30th August 2013)*



Member Country and Groups Represented at EDTC

				
Austria	Belgium	Croatia	Czech Republic	Denmark
				
Estonia	Finland	France	Germany	Italy
				
Latvia	Netherlands	Norway	Poland	Portugal
				
Spain	Slovak Republic	Sweden	Switzerland	Turkey
			International Diving Regulators Forum	
United Kingdom	IMCA	IDSA	IDRF	ADC
Observers and Invited Guests:				
		ADAS		
		DCBC		