

Queensland



Workplace Health and Safety Act 1989

WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY (MIXED GASES DIVING) SPECIAL STANDARD 1994

**Reprinted as in force on 18 October 1994
(SL not amended up to this date)**

Reprint No. 1

This reprint is prepared by
the Office of the Queensland Parliamentary Counsel
Warning—This reprint is not an authorised copy

Information about this reprint

This standard is reprinted as at 18 October 1994. The reprint—

- shows the law as amended by all amendments that commenced on or before that day
- incorporates all necessary consequential amendments, whether of punctuation, numbering or another kind.

The reprint includes a reference to the law by which each amendment was made—see List of legislation and List of annotations in Endnotes.

Minor editorial changes allowed under the provisions of the Reprints Act 1992 mentioned in the following list have also been made to—

- use aspects of format and printing style consistent with current legislative drafting practice (s 35)
- omit the words of notification (s 42A).

Also see Endnotes for information about—

- **when provisions commenced.**

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WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY (MIXED GASES DIVING) SPECIAL STANDARD 1994

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WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY (MIXED GASES DIVING) SPECIAL STANDARD 1994

[reprinted as in force on 18 October 1994²]

Short title

1. This special standard may be cited as the *Workplace Health and Safety (Mixed Gases Diving) Special Standard 1994*³.

Definitions

2. In this special standard—

“**air**” means the mixture of oxygen, nitrogen and other gases that surrounds the earth and forms its atmosphere.

“**diving operations**” means occupational or recreational diving.

“**mixed gases**” means a mixture of gases other than air.

“**occupational diving**” means diving, using either scuba or SSBA, carried on in connection with workplace activities.

“**recreational diving**” means diving, using either scuba or SSBA, by a person who—

- (a) is training a person undertaking a recreational diving certificate course or noncertificate (resort) course; or
- (b) is undertaking a recreational diving certificate course or noncertificate (resort) course; or
- (c) is supervising the diving of a person who holds a recreational diving certificate or higher level qualification; or
- (d) is diving under the supervision of a person mentioned in paragraph (c).

“**scuba**” means open circuit, self-contained underwater breathing apparatus.

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“SSBA” means breathing equipment that supplies a diver with compressed air through a hose from a compressor or storage cylinders situated above the water’s surface.

Reason for special standard

3.(1) The Minister is of the opinion that the use of mixed gases in diving operations gives rise, or is likely to give rise, to a dangerous situation.

(2) To ensure the health and safety of persons using mixed gases in diving operations, the method of work proposed to be used in the operations must be approved by the Director before the operations start.

Use of mixed gases

4.(1) A person must not use, or permit someone else to use, mixed gases in diving operations without obtaining the Director’s approval of the method of work proposed to be adopted in the diving operations.

(2) A person must apply in writing to the Director for approval.

(3) The person must apply at least 28 days before the person proposes to carry out the diving operations.

(4) The Director must consider the application and decide either—

- (a)** to approve the method of work; or
- (b)** to refuse to approve the method of work.

(5) Within 14 days of receiving the application, the Director must—

- (a)** if the Director decides to approve the method of work—give the applicant a written notice of approval; or
- (b)** if the Director decides to refuse to approve the method of work—give the applicant a written notice stating the reasons for the refusal.

Method of work to be adopted

5.(1) The proposed method of work must address the requirements

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specified in the Specific Requirements as to Offshore Petroleum Explorations and Production 1990 issued under the *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1967* (Cwlth).¹

(2) For recreational diving the proposed method of work must also address—

- (a) the procedures for the following—
 - (i) filling a cylinder with a gas mixture;
 - (ii) testing the purity and composition of the gas mixture;
 - (iii) identifying, handling and cleaning the diving equipment;
 - (iv) training users or operators of the diving equipment;
 - (v) ensuring retrieval and treatment facilities are available for an injured diver; and
- (b) the oxygen concentration and depth limitations to be adopted.

¹ A copy of the Specific Requirements may be inspected at the office of the Division of Workplace Health and Safety, 30 Makerston Street, Brisbane and the Division's regional offices.

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2 Date to which amendments incorporated

This is the reprint date mentioned in the Reprints Act 1992, section 5(c). However, no amendments have commenced operation on or before that day. Future amendments of the Workplace Health and Safety (Mixed Gases Diving) Special Standard 1994 may be made in accordance with this reprint under the Reprints Act 1992, section 49.

3 List of legislation

**Workplace Health and Safety (Mixed Gases Diving) Special Standard 1994 SL
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