

Explorer SR Post Incident Lockdown Procedures

Hollis Explorer Sport Rebreather – <http://www.hollis.com> - +1-510-729-5110

The intent of this document is to assist in the preservation of evidence and avoid spoliation of evidence in regards to the rebreather and connected systems.

Photography and Videography along with an independent voice recording will improve the quality of information recorded when the rebreather is assessed, removed from the diver, or examined by the authorities. After the assessment, make backup copies of all digital media used to record images and voice. The rebreather should be considered as evidence that will be used in a court of law to determine fault and negligence. Don't be in a hurry, do document everything.

This information must be kept private and confidential.

GUIDANCE IN THE EVENT OF HANDLING DIVING EQUIPMENT POST INCIDENT

Personal Safety:

If mishandled, diving equipment can be hazardous to health. Do not place any person in a dangerous situation to recover any equipment. Diving equipment may contain gas at high pressure. Re-breathing equipment may contain hazardous chemicals. Diving equipment may be heavy, ensure when lifting equipment that correct handling techniques are used.

General Procedure:

DO NOT DISMANTLE THE EQUIPMENT – Maintain in an UPRIGHT position.

Record the following dive information:

- Date, time and location of incident.
- Dive time and maximum depth of dive for the diver and any companions.
- Dive plan, decompression schedules used and if completed correctly.

Try to handle the equipment as little as possible. Note and record on recovery of equipment:

- If buoyancy device or dry suit hoses are connected on recovery.
- If equipment was damaged, prior to or during recovery.
- Information displayed on a dive computer at time of recovery.
- All pressure displays/gauges and record pressures.
- Any details displayed on other electronic instruments.

Gather together and isolate all equipment involved in the accident, including:

- Dive Slate/Logs and Checklists covering previous 48 hours.
- If available at least one other gas cylinder charged from the same source.
- CO2 absorbent from the same keg/lot

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Valves:

- Do attempt (do not force) to close all cylinder and isolator valves, note and record number of turns required for each valve (1 turn = 360°).
- Do tape valves on cylinders and manifolds in the closed position.
- Do tape any controls or valves on regulators, buoyancy devices and dry suits (including swivel inflation connections) in the position found to prevent any inadvertent movement.

Rebreather;

- Do Close the rebreather mouthpiece, the gas in the breathing loop can be analyzed
- Do retain and keep with incident apparatus any samples of unused soda lime (from same batch) in the original container
- Do allow any computer(s) to go into standby mode preferably by air-drying or switch computer off

IMPORTANT: The rebreather must be transported and stored in an UPRIGHT position.

DO NOT

- Seal wet electronic equipment in plastic bag (a discharged battery can wipe any memory available).
- Leave valves open on cylinders.
- Vent the gas in a cylinder prior to transport.
- Move maximum depth recordings on analogue gauges.
- Change position on any regulator controls.

Ask witnesses to provide personal contact information and description of the incident

Additional Analysis that may be performed after lockdown

- Gas analysis of the breathing gas
- Gas Analysis of gases in the cylinders the diver was carrying
- Chemical analysis of fluids in the breathing loop
- Chemical analysis of the used absorbent in the rebreather
- Chemical and performance analysis of unused CO2 absorbent from the same lot
- Performance analysis of valves
- Detailed engineering analysis of the rebreather components
- Functional testing of the regulators, valves, and breathing loop
- Dive Computer dive log download, manufacturer's data download