



# Dealing with Inflator Issues





# Background - Goal

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- In a recent dive, one of our divers experienced an issue with their inflator.
- Accordingly, thought we could discuss:
  - Dealing with Inflator issues in the water.
  - Prevention.



# In-Water Inflator Issues

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## Situation 1.

- **Upon Entry/Descent, you find you have difficulty descending. Upon getting to the bottom, you discover that you have a Slow-to-Medium leak in your inflator –**
- **What do you do?**



# In-Water Inflator Issues

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## Situation 2.

- **Upon Entry/Descent, you find you have difficulty descending. Upon getting to the bottom, you find you have a leak in the inflator. You try to clear the leak with a gentle tweak of the inflator button.**
- **The inflator locks in “Full Open” with air pouring into the BC.**
- **What do you do?**



# In-Water Actions

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## In-Water Actions:

- **Very Slow Leak - Continue dive and monitor?**
- **Slow Leak – Disconnect Inflator and Continue Dive or Surface and Fix/ Replace?**
- **Medium Leak – Disconnect Inflator and Continue Dive or Surface and Fix / Replace?**
- **Full Open – Emergency Disconnect /Ascent to Surface and Fix / Replace?**



# Considerations

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## Considerations:

- Experience Level
- Rate of Air Loss
- Depth
- Safety



# Preventing Inflator Issues

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**Maintenance – Maintenance – Maintenance.**

- **Fresh Water Rinse - particularly after Salt Water dives.**
- **Soaking inflator Overnight or longer in Bucket / Sink / Etc.**
- **Use Hose Attachment to run fresh water thru the inflator.**





# Inflator Valve Design



Access points for repair/  
maintenance





# Comments

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