

February 2, 1996

NOAA DIVING SAFETY BULLETIN #96-01

MEMORANDUM FOR: All NOAA Divers

FROM: Cliff Newell
Director, NOAA Diving Program

SUBJECT: Recall of Trelleborg Viking Inc. Sport Dry Suit
Air Inlet Hose Assemblies

Trelleborg Viking Inc., announced a recall of all Viking Sport dry suit air inlet hose assemblies purchased between 1981 and 1988. The cause of the recall is the possibility that a faulty brass spring could have been installed in 500 hose assemblies sold world-wide. While there have been no reported failures of the hose assembly, the manufacturer after recent litigation has requested a recall to maximize safety.

The recall involves only the air hose assemblies used on the Viking Sport dry suit (and does not involve the Pro or Military versions). The Viking-Pro version is issued by the NOAA SEP.

The Viking Sport style assembly consists of a square block with female connector, with T sport style assembly consists of a square block with female connector, with the inflation hose having a male connector. The valve functions by pushing the end of the block to inflate the suit. The Sport air hose assembly can be distinguished from the pro valve in the following way: the pro valve is a round valve with a male silver connector protruding from the side of the valve. The inflating hose connects to this connector by a female quick disconnect. Additionally, the pro valve is operated by pushing the top of the valve, vice pushing the end of the Sport valve.

Take the following action to comply with the recall:

- a. Determine if your command carries any Viking Sport dry suits or sport style valve assemblies.
- b. If Sport style valve assemblies are found, check for a code on the flattened hex nut of the sport inflation hose (the first stage end). If there is no code or a code beginning with an A, B or C is found, then the valve assembly is subject to the recall.
- c. If valve assemblies are found which are subject to the recall, do not use the dry suit, and call either Mr. John Drewniak, Trelleborg Viking, (800) 344-4458, or the NOAA Diving Center point of contact.

For further information regarding this subject contact the NOAA Diving Center at 206/526-6196.