

Training Courses

For all diving in a scientific context the qualification „Certified Research Diver“ is required by law in Germany.

ZMT and its partners are offering a five-week vocational training course „Certified Research Diver“ and „European Scientific Diver (ESD)“ that is recognised Europe-wide. Typically the course is split into a two-week and three-week segment.

Lessons include but are not restricted to:

- » Planning and organisation of dive missions
- » Health and safety procedures
- » Emergency training
- » Basic and advanced methods in underwater science
- » Medicine, physics, equipment maintenance
- » National and international law that regulates scientific diving

A two-day examination by the German Examination Board for Scientific Diving marks the end of the course.

Upcoming courses are usually announced on our website and on the website of the Commission of Scientific Divers in Germany:

<http://www.forschungstauchen-deutschland.de>



Circleoffset Premium White | Recycled offset paper made exclusively of waste paper • Scientific diving photo (notepad): Stefanie Bröhl, ZMT - Israel • Fish photo: Michael Schmid, ZMT - Indonesia • Sediment core photo: Michael Schmid, ZMT - Crete • Training photo: Michael Schmid, ZMT - Eilat • Cover photo: Andreas Eich, ZMT - Fiji



ZMT 
LEIBNIZ CENTRE
for Tropical Marine Research



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Scientific Diving Centre





Scientific Diving at ZMT

Scientific diving is an indispensable method for many aspects of marine sciences and is a prerequisite for many of the approaches undertaken by ZMT researchers. Examples include physiological studies on coral reef organisms, experiments on reef ecology and surveys, acquisition of environmental data, and sedimentological as well as biogeochemical sampling. In response to the demand for diving as a fundamental research tool, ZMT is a member of the German Commission for Research Diving (KFT), and is an official and government-approved training facility.

Diving Centre

The ZMT Scientific Diving Centre (SDC) promotes and supports the underwater research activities of ZMT scientific divers. The SDC works closely with ZMT's four scientific departments through the provision of:

- » Certification
- » Advice
- » Speciality training
- » Logistics
- » Equipment
- » Maintenance
- » Field support
- » First Aid training for divers
- » Dive plan authorisation

The unit consists of a team of instructors and assistants and is headed by the dive safety officer. Together they train new research divers and assist ZMT staff in planning dive missions by supporting risk assessments and preparing a rescue chain. Weekly fitness training is offered in the swimming pool of the University of Bremen.

Dive Logistics

The Scientific Dive Centre supports expeditions with

- » Newest dive equipment
- » Planning of dives
- » Additional specialised equipment for a variety of underwater tasks

We also provide underwater and video equipment for qualitative and quantitative assessment of habitats as well as for documentation of expeditions. Wireless diver to surface communication units enable scientists to better and faster assess habitats and populations of a variety of organisms.

Our in-house workshop is able to maintain and service most of our equipment through trained personnel.



Scientific Diving in Germany

Scientists and students who wish to dive to accomplish their research or educational objectives must meet the minimum requirements for scientific divers as defined by the German Statutory Insurance Association in the rule GUV-2112 „Operation of Scientific Divers“. German and English versions can be found on our website. These standards require that divers pass stringent physical exams, meet additional training requirements, and maintain a sustained level of diving activity.

Planning a Dive Mission

1. Proof of valid Health and First Aid certificates and diving documents (scientific diver or equivalent)
2. Fill in application form
<http://www.taucheinsatzplaner.de/zmt-bremen/>
3. Perform risk assessment and submit to dive safety officer
4. Fill in personal info sheet
5. Approval by dive safety officer