

QA# 39458

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Dockets Management Facility (USCG - 1998 - 3786 -7)
U.S. Department of Transportation
Room PL - 401
400 Seventh Street SW
Washington, DC 20590 - 0001

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKET SECTION
98 AUG -3 PM 3:44

REF: Commercial Diving Operations.

Dear Sirs,

It has been brought to our attention that the Coast Guard is revising the commercial diving operations regulations. We are a small diving corporation and would like to make a comment for consideration before the any necessary regulatory revisions are made.

The one regulation that should be looked at very closely is 197.430, Scuba Diving. Of all of the regulations now in effect by the Coast Guard, the before mentioned regulation is the most unsafe and abused practice in the Commercial diving industry.

All of my employees are school trained commercial divers and spent many months learning their trade from a certified diving school. They are all well trained for diving in the commercial area. Scuba divers, on the other hand, can get a recreational diving certification card in two weeks, are far from being qualified to do commercial work. It is our belief that all commercial diving should be done with hard hats and with radio communications. Something you don't have with scuba divers.

I thank you in advance for allowing me to comment on the commercial diving operations regulatory revisions.

Sincerely,



Kim Lea
President
Lea Diving & Salvage Corp. Inc.