

Open Circuit Nitrox Diver

- A) **Course:** Open Circuit "Nitrox" Diver Level I
- B) **Course objective:** This course develops in the participant, the required abilities, knowledge and techniques to dive responsibly with Nitrox within sport diving and no-decompression limits.
- C) **Pre-requisites:** minimum 18 years of age, Open Water diver, CMAS* or equivalent certification, proof of a minimum of 20 logged dives and a valid diving medical.
- D) **Course content/duration:** All theoretical and practical aspects of diving with various Nitrox mixes. The classroom session explains the physical and physiological hazards of Nitrox diving, dive planning including best mix, EAD and MOD calculation, equipment considerations for Nitrox diving and all procedures involved. The practical part of the course includes 2 open water dives. Course duration is typically 1¹/₂ – 2 days. The open water dives must be carried out by the participant(s) under direct underwater supervision of the course instructor or under his/her direct observation at the dive site. The instructor-to-student ratio is 1:4.
- E) **Support material:** IART Nitrox manual, NOAA O₂-exposure tables, and standard air decompression tables, Instructor manual and Instructor presentation materials.
- F) **Required equipment:** Complete diving equipment, decompression tables, slate, depth gauge and bottom timer or computer. The equipment must be compatible for use with Nitrox mixes containing up to 40% oxygen.
- G) **Limits:** The maximum depths during training are determining by the MOD of the mix being used. An oxygen partial pressure of 1.4 bar should not be exceeded at any time. Dive duration should not exceed no-stop limits.
- H) **Practical skills:** The dives should include the proper planning, including an assessment of the dive site, determination of the best mix to be used, gas analysis of cylinder contents and calculation of the MOD; EAD; and CNS-loading. Two separate dives must be conducted within the MOD of the mix used and within no-decompression limits. The student should record his CNS loading after the first dive and take the residual loading into account when planning the second dive. Accurate log book entries following each dive are a mandatory part of the practical skills.
- I) **Certification requirements:** The student must satisfactorily complete a written exam. Once training requirements are met at the Instructor's discretion, it is necessary to submit an application in order to obtain the corresponding IART certification card. In accordance with IART quality control, the student and Instructor are required to fill in the training protocol form. The instructor must retain this form with the student file.
- J) **Certification:** IART HQ
- K) **Certification Renewal:** n/a