# DOT Requested Analysis 

of

# Failed SCUBA Cylinder/Valve Assembly 

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### 1.0 INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

It was reported to RTI Group, LLC (RTI) that an Open Circuit Self-Contained-Underwater-Breathing-Apparatus (SCUBA) cylinder, valve assembly, and regulator were involved in an explosion. It was reported that the source of the explosion was the high pressure gas cylinder failing. The incident cylinder had been filled with high purity oxygen, and the explosion had resulted in a fatality and extensive property damage, both from blast effects and a fire. Since the SCUBA cylinder had been certified under regulations promulgated by the U.S. Government, the evidence recovered by the St. Petersburg Police was transferred to the United States Department of Transportation (DOT), Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), Office of Hazardous Materials Safety. Reference is made to the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 49, Parts 173 and 178.

### 2.0 PURPOSE

RTI was tasked through Government Contract DTPH56-12-P-000004, dated November 9, 2011, issued by Office of Acquisition Services US DOT/PHMSA/PHA-30, to perform an investigation of the evidence recovered from the subject incident to determine if non-compliance with Hazardous Materials Regulations played a part in the cylinder failure and if modification of the regulatory standards would be necessary.

Additionally, the purpose of this contract is to evaluate the ruptured DOT 3AL-3000 cylinder valve and determine the following:

1. the degree of exposure to thermal energy; and
2. evidence of oxygen contamination which may have resulted in the explosion (fire) inside the ruptured DOT 3AL cylinder.

Under the tasking directive of the contract, sub-section 3.02 "Advanced Analysis and Examination", as part of the investigation the evidence was to be subjected to a series of invasive, therefore destructive, examinations in which specific laboratory equipment would be employed, such as Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR), Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM), Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy (EDS), metallography, alloy chemistry, hardness testing, and tension and compression testing.

Once completed, the evidence from physical examination and the results of the laboratory tests were subjected to an engineering evaluation to, if possible, determine the degree of exposure to thermal energy, and determine if there was evidence of contaminants or materials incompatible with oxygen that may have resulted in the incident.

### 3.0 INVESTIGATION

RTI performed the following: evidence inspection upon receipt on November 15, 2011; laboratory inspection of the evidence March 12-14, 2012, documented in field notes and with photographs; inspection of exemplar cylinder valves and regulator; review of the literature sources listed below; and engineering analysis.

### 3.1 Standards, Codes, and Open Literature

### 3.1.1 Standards and Codes:

a) ASTM E 8M Test Method for Tension Testing of Metallic Materials.
b) ASTM E9 Standard Test Method of Compression Testing of Metallic Materials at Room Temperature.
c) ASTM G 88 Standard Guide for Designing Systems for Oxygen Service.
d) ASTM G 93 Standard Practice for Cleaning Methods and Cleanliness Levels for Material and Equipment Used in Oxygen-Enriched Environments.
e) ASTM G 94 Standard Guide for Evaluating Metals for Oxygen Service.
f) Code of Federal Regulations, Title 49, Part 173 (Subpart G: Preparation and Packaging) and Part 178 (Subpart C: Specifications for Cylinders).

### 3.1.2 Open Literature

a) "Guide for Oxygen Compatibility Assessment on Oxygen Components and Systems," K. Rosales, M. Shoffstall, J. Soltzfus, NASA/TM-2007-213740, March 2007.
b) "U.S. Navy Diving Manual," SS521-AG-PRO-010 Revision 6, 0910-LP-106-0957, April 15, 2008.
c) Handbook of Compressed Gases, Third Edition, Compressed Gas Association, Inc., Chapman \& Hall, 1990.
d) "Introduction to Aluminum Alloys and Tempers", Kaufman, G.J., ASM International, Materials Park, 2000.
e) "Copper-Aluminum Interaction in Fire Environments", B. Beland, C. Roy, and M. Tremblay, Fire Technology, Vol. 19, Number 1, 1983, pages 22-30.

### 3.2 Evidence Description

On November 15, 2011, RTI Group, LLC (RTI) received four items from the Department of Transportation (DOT), Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA). These items are described as follows:

### 3.2.1 Yellow high pressure gas cylinder fragment, Part 1

Smaller fragment from the incident cylinder; measures approximately 30 cm by 15 cm and weighs 760 gm .

### 3.2.2 Yellow high pressure gas cylinder fragment, Part 2

Larger section contains the bottom, neck, and valve opening; measures approximately 60 cm by 35 cm and weighs $6,137 \mathrm{gm}$.

### 3.2.3 High Pressure Cylinder Valve, DIN Valve

A chrome coated metal cylinder valve with the brand "Genesis" present on the front. A pressure regulator adaptor was present in the cylinder valve outlet opening with a fractured outlet. The rubber hand closure knob was present, but separate from the valve.

### 3.2.4 Pressure Regulator

A cylindrical metal device having a length of 6 cm and a diameter of 4.5 cm . Attached to the regulator were:

1. Black pressure line with dial gage on high pressure side of regulator.
2. Length of green pressure line. Distal end terminates unattached.

### 3.3 Evidence Inspection Observations

The received evidence was inspected and photographed to document the condition in which it was received. A receipt form was executed to preserve the Chain of Custody.

### 3.3.1 Yellow high pressure gas cylinder, Part 1

The smaller fragment from the cylinder measured approximately 30 cm by 15 cm , and is seen in Figure 1. This fragment contained a portion of the upper part of the cylinder proximate to the threaded opening. The fragment was clearly fractured by a catastrophic overload failure. In the portion near the cylinder opening, the fracture transitioned into a melted/eroded area where the material appeared to have eroded or "flowed" from the interior surface of the cylinder. The erosion was most extensive at the fracture where the cylinder wall was very thin, almost terminating into a sharp edge, with increasing thickness towards the non-eroded area. The flow patterns suggest that the eroded material flowed out of the crack formed in the cylinder wall, as well as out of the valve opening. The remaining cylinder interior surface was otherwise unremarkable. The curvature of the fragment was measured using a spherometer, and resulted in a reading of up to 200 mm near a portion of the interior fracture surface, compared to the original radius of curvature of 57 mm .


Figure 1. Smaller portion of high pressure gas cylinder

Along the base of the hemispherical connection were displayed the following marks near the neck:

$$
\text { HY-MARK DOT-3AL } 3000 \text { OU }
$$

This is an incomplete DOT cylinder marking scheme. The remainder of the markings was found on the larger portion of the cylinder.

The cylinder fragment had on its exterior surface a full decal and part of another. The first decal, seen in Figure 2, appears like that used by the International Association of Nitrox and Technical Divers (IANTD), as seen in Figure 3, which states if the decaled cylinder has been cleaned for use with Nitrox ${ }^{1}$ or Oxygen.

The remaining legible content of the label indicated the "Tank \& Valve Have Been Cleaned For Premix, Oxygen Content 22 to $40 \%$ " was not punched out, while the "Tank \& Valve Have Been Cleaned In Accordance With $\mathrm{O}_{2}$ Service" was punched out at 2011. The month is obscured. There is no indication as to who may have stamped and applied the decal, or as to what procedure was followed to certify the cylinder was properly cleaned.

[^0]

Figure 2. Label on smaller fragment.


Figure 3. Decal label from International Association Nitrox and Technical Divers ${ }^{2}$

[^1]Only a small portion of the second decal was visible, and stated "for decompression use .... IANTD/IAND, Inc."

### 3.3.2 Yellow high pressure gas cylinder, Part 2

The larger fragment of the high pressure gas cylinder, seen in Figure 4, contained the bottom, neck, and valve opening portions.


Figure 4. Larger portion of high pressure gas cylinder

A similar erosion pattern to that found on the smaller fragment was seen near the opening at the top. Facing the interior surface with the opening up, the inside surface to the left of the opening had significant erosion extending about 20 cm below the top before transitioning to a fracture. The threads in the opening were clearly stripped with only part of the thread root visible. The pattern of erosion within the opening was uneven in depth and texture, and was different around the opening compared to along the cylinder side towards the fractures. The opening had a stippled texture whereas the areas away from the opening had distinct flow lines with perpendicular waves.

The exterior surface exhibited evidence of heat effects and darkened coloration near the cylinder top. The normally yellow paint is discolored to brown, with black material (soot) found on some of the fracture surface.

This item had the following markings near the hemispherical connection to the cylindrical body:
0001 M5422 1007 S40 TC-3AL 207
These, together with the stamped markings found on the other fragment, create the complete DOT marking scheme as follows:

DOT-3AL 3000 OU0001 M5422 1007 S40 TC-3AL 207 HY-MARK
These complete markings indicate as follows ${ }^{3}$ :
DOT-3AL - This is a Department of Transportation regulated seamless cylinder made from definitely prescribed aluminum alloy requiring a minimum service pressure of 150 psig , and a maximum water capacity of $1000 \mathrm{lb} .{ }^{4}$
$\mathbf{3 0 0 0}$ - is the maximum service pressure in psi.
OU0001 - is the manufacturer's serial number.
M5422 - is the DOT PHMSA "M" or manufacturer's identification number. This number indicates the manufacturer was Hy-Mark Cylinders, Inc. of 305 E. Street, Hampton, VA 23661, approved June 5, 2000.
$\mathbf{1 0 0 7}$ - is the originating hydrostatic test date, October 2007
$\mathbf{S 4 0}$ - indicates the cylinder is intended for SCUBA use, and can hold compressed gas that has a volume of $40 \mathrm{ft}^{3}$ of air at standard pressure and temperature conditions.

TC-3AL 207 - indicates the cylinder is also compliant with the Transportation Canada, identified as a 3AL container with service pressure to 207 Bar.

HY-MARK - is the manufacturer's symbol, again consistent with Hy-Mark Cylinders. Hy-Mark Cylinders, Inc. was purchased by Worthington Industries, Inc. (NYSE WOR) on June 21, 2010. ${ }^{5}$

This part of the cylinder contained the remaining portion of the second decal stating "OXYGEN for decompression use only - MOD 20 FSW MOD 6 MSW $^{6}$ WWW.IANTD.COM". The label

[^2]indicated that the purpose of this cylinder was for oxygen use during the latter stage decompression from extremely deep diving.

### 3.3.3 High Pressure Cylinder Valve, DIN Valve

A label stamped into the body indicated the incident cylinder valve was manufactured by Genesis and contained a $32.6 \mathrm{MPa}(5000 \mathrm{psi}, 30 \mathrm{lb} / \mathrm{hr}$ ) CG-1 type rupture disk. A pressure regulator adaptor was present in the opening containing a fractured outlet. A metal particle filter was evident in the opening. The rubber hand valve closure knob was present, but separated from the valve, as seen in Figure 5.


Figure 5. View of cylinder valve, a) front, b) back

### 3.3.4 Pressure Regulator

The incident pressure regulator was manufactured by Dive Rite, serial number 12008135. The high pressure inlet opening was occupied by the fractured end of the pressure regulator adaptor, see Figure 6. Attached to the regulator were:

- A black pressure line with dial gage on high pressure side of regulator; dial gage face is heat affected and the gage is illegible.
- A length of green pressure line stating "WARNING Do not exceed 250 psi (17 bar) high pressure may cause damage or personal injury"; no manufacturer was identified.


Figure 6. Cylinder valve, cylinder valve adapter, regulator and regulator assembly.

The green line was discolored (lightened to yellow white) proximate to the regulator, indicating possible exposure to high heat. There were no indications of melting or combustion. The distal portion of the outlet line was bright green and terminated without the anticipated second stage regulator.

### 4.0 LABORATORY TESTING

On March 12, 2012, RTI traveled to the laboratories of Anamet, Inc., an affiliated RTI company, for the purpose of conducting a laboratory examination of the incident scuba cylinder fragments, cylinder valve, and regulator, as well as an exemplar cylinder valve. RTI prepared a protocol, dated November 29, 2011, as found in Attachment 1, which served as the guide for all investigative activities conducted over the three day examination. The examination, which included both nondestructive and destructive procedures, was also documented by way of both still photography and videography.

### 4.1 Unpacking Evidence

The container of evidence, shipped from RTI's Annapolis, MD offices, remained sealed until commencement of the examination on March 12, 2012 when all attending parties were present. Items were packaged individually as seen in Figure 7.


Figure 7. View of the individually packaged evidence items at Anamet after removal from the shipping container.

### 4.2 Disassembly and Visual Inspection

The incident cylinder valve, an exemplar cylinder valve, and the incident regulator were disassembled and photographed prior to further inspection and examination of the constituent components of each.

### 4.2.1 Exemplar Valve

The exemplar cylinder valve, shown in Figure 8, has four distinct sections. Proceeding from the left side of the valve in a clockwise direction they were: the valve stem assembly and housing, the high pressure regulator fitting, the pressure burst disk assembly, and the threaded cylinder attachment with a pick-up tube.


Figure 8. Front view of the exemplar cylinder valve. The valve stem assembly and housing is concealed by the black valve handle.

RTI first loosened and removed the locking nut securing the hard rubber valve handle grip in place. With the nut removed, the grip slid off of the 7.34 mm long threaded portion of the valve
stem. Between the threaded rod and the main portion of the valve stem, a square cross section was present that provided the rubber valve handle a means for turning the valve stem. A gland nut with a smooth center bore secured the valve stem inside the valve body. The smooth bore provides for free rotation of the valve stem. An O-ring, 1.28 cm in diameter, served to seal the connection between the gland nut and the valve body, see Figure 9. RTI removed this nut to expose the valve stem. As it is not secured by any part other than the nut, it could be removed from the valve body simply by pulling it straight out.


Figure 9. Rear view of the partial exemplar valve stem assembly showing the gland nut, O-ring, and valve stem.

Upon removal, RTI observed the stem to be covered in a white grease-like substance, and that it incorporated two polymer bushings and two O-rings, see Figure 10. The stem ended in a square mandrel approximately 8.53 mm long. RTI observed the inner wall of the portion of the valve body, within which the valve stem resides, to be threaded. A threaded, square bored valve seat
body resided at the inner end of this portion of the valve body. RTI removed it by reinserting the valve stem and rotating counter clockwise to unthread the valve seat body. Once removed, the valve seat body appeared to be made of bronze with a black colored coating over most of the surface area. Figure 10 shows the valve seat body and provides orientation. The interior end incorporated a plastic valve seat.


Figure 10. Rear view of the fully disassembled exemplar valve stem assembly showing the valve seat body and its orientation in the assembly.

Referring to Figure 11, RTI next removed the pressure burst disk assembly, which consists of a hollow threaded plug, a 34.1 MPa ( 5000 psi ) burst disk, and retaining rings. Threads on the plug stop short of the head by approximately 2.411 mm . The head of the plug is bored through, presumably to allow a dispersed release of excess high pressure gas should the burst disk fail. Figure 12 shows the burst disk and retaining ring as installed in the plug. Markings on the outer surface of the assembly head indicate that the assembly is to be installed with $40.7 \mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{m}(30 \mathrm{ft}-\mathrm{lb})$ of torque.


Figure 11. Rear view of the exemplar pressure burst disk assembly as removed from the valve body.


Figure 12. View of the exemplar pressure burst disk assembly showing the burst disk and retaining ring.

Finally, RTI removed the threaded protective insert into the high pressure regulator port. Removal of the insert revealed a shallow threaded bore leading to a gas supply rectangular opening proceeding down into the center of the cylinder valve body, indicated by the in Figure 13. Additionally, RTI observed a 1.9 mm diameter vent hole on the right side of the high pressure regulator port, indicated in Figure 13. This vent is approximately 7.42 mm forward of the rear inner surface of the port such that it is closed off when a fitting is fully threaded into the port.


Figure 13. Front view of the exemplar cylinder valve showing the high pressure regulator port.

The cylinder attachment consists of a straight threaded insert with an 8.05 mm diameter, 4.01 cm long dip tube fit into a center bore, see Figure 8. The nominal thread diameter and pitch measured as approximately 25 mm with a 2 mm pitch ( 1.035 inches and 13 tpi), respectively. An O-ring is provided at the cylinder mating surface.

Further detailed examination of the disassembled cylinder valve body revealed information about the path of high pressure gas from the cylinder through the valve. With the valve handle in the fully closed (inserted) position, high pressure gas flowing from the cylinder proceeds up through the pick-up tube and is directed against the valve seat to the left and the pressure burst disk to the right. As the valve is opened, the gas is allowed to flow past the valve seat and makes its way to the regulator port. This is accomplished by way of an angled bore connecting the valve stem bore to the regulator port. The rectangular cutout visible inside the regulator port is the outlet of
the angled bore. The external housing of the angled bore is indicated in Figure 14 showing the rear view of the exemplar valve.


Figure 14. Rear view of the assembled exemplar cylinder valve showing the angled bore housing that connects the high pressure regulator port to the valve system assembly chamber.

### 4.2.2 Incident Valve

As shown in Figure 5, the incident valve was received with several parts missing from the valve including the locking nut; the rubber valve handle (present but damaged and no longer attached); the threaded and square segment of the valve stem to which the handle attaches (this appeared to have separated from the main body of the valve stem leaving a square fracture surface); the dip tube; and a significant portion of the cylinder neck opening threads. The entire exterior of the incident valve and its installed components appeared charred and roughened compared to the exemplar valve.

RTI began the disassembly process of the incident valve by removing the gland nut, shown in Figure 15, with a torque wrench fitted with an appropriately sized socket in order to measure the installation torque. The gland nut was found to be threaded into the valve body approximately finger tight as measurements showed zero installation torque. The nut made four and one sixth turns before clearing the valve body. An intact O-ring similar to that found in the exemplar remained in its intended position on the gland nut.


Figure 15. View of the incident cylinder valve gland nut showing the presence of the intact Oring.

Removal of the gland nut allowed access to the valve stem and the valve seat body. As shown in Figure 16, the incident valve stem was very similar in appearance to the exemplar although one of the bushings was different in color. Compared to the exemplar valve seat body in Figure 17, the incident valve seat body displayed a different color coating. The incident valve seat was also coated with some material, but with a green color. All portions of the incident gland nut, the
stem, the valve seat body, the plastic valve seat, and the interior of the valve stem portion of the valve body were further notable in that they were free of any apparent damage, heat effects, or discoloration as might be expected to result from fire or explosion.


Figure 16. View of the incident valve stem (top) as compared to the exemplar valve stem.


Figure 17. View of the incident valve seat body (green with white valve seat, upper) as compared to the exemplar valve seat body (black with yellow valve seat, lower).

RTI next removed the burst disk assembly of the incident valve. Compared to the gland nut, the burst disk assembly appeared tightly fit into the valve body. The installation torque was measured to be $10.17 \mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{m}$ ( $90 \mathrm{in}-\mathrm{lb}$ ). It took $53 / 4$ turns to remove the assembly. While the exterior exposed surfaces of the plug had the same charred and damaged appearance as the rest of the incident valve, the interior surfaces were clean and bright and the burst disk was intact, see Figure 18. Correspondingly, the interior surfaces of the valve body in the area of the burst disk also proved to be clean and bright.


Figure 18. View of the incident burst disk assembly (upper) as compared to the exemplar burst disk assembly (lower).

During the explosion, the regulator, which attaches to the valve at the regulator port by way of a threaded adapter, broke away from the valve leaving a portion of the adapter still threaded into
the valve regulator port. This adapter included a plastic handle used for tightening into the regulator port, which remained intact. As seen in Figure 5, the adapter broke such that the handle remained attached to the valve but the portion that threads into the regulator remained with the regulator. Simply turning the handle allowed the adapter fragment to be removed from the valve. Some soot was observed on the interior surfaces of the regulator port and the adapter fragment. Inside the regulator port, charring was seen extensively around the vent and along the bottom thread. Soot-like discoloration was observed extending into the port from the charring near the center. Otherwise, the interior of the regulator port was clean and bright, see Figure 19.


Figure 19. View of the incident valve high pressure regulator port showing discoloration sooting around the vent.

The valve side of the adapter fragment contained an intact O-ring and a fitting suitable for inserting a hex key. Visible on the handle was the raised text " 300 BAR", see Figure 20. Internal to the adapter is a metal air cup that serves as a filter between the cylinder valve and the
regulator. RTI disassembled the adapter fragment and removed the air cup for further examination.


Figure 20. View of the incident valve and underside of the regulator adapter handle.

### 4.2.3 Incident Regulator

RTI received the incident regulator, shown in Figure 6, with approximately 1 m length of green hose attached to one of the low pressure ports. Attached to one of the high pressure ports was a pressure gauge at the end of a 13 cm length of black hose. Soot coated the exterior surfaces of the regulator body, pressure gauge, and black hose; and the first 53 cm of the green hose appear heat affected by discoloration.

RTI first removed the two hoses, revealing the interiors of the two ports to be clean and bright with very little evidence of soot. Next, the remaining portion of the adapter was removed. While soot covered the adaptor's exterior surface and inner bore surface, the interior of the
exposed high pressure port was again clean and bright. However, the bore between the port and the regulator barrel was covered in dark soot.

Next, the cap/spring/plunger assembly, that serves in conjunction with a diaphragm to meter the high pressure gas to the low pressure side of the regulator, was removed. An O-ring and a flat plastic washer were seated in the low pressure regulator barrel and subsequently removed. Minor sooting and particulate matter were visible inside the incident regulator, on the washer and O-ring, and at the interior plunger end. As much as possible of these particulates was captured for later chemical analysis. As is seen in Figure 21 and Figure 22, these components appeared to be in an overall undamaged condition.


Figure 21. View of the incident regulator with the cap/spring/plunger assembly being removed.


Figure 22. View into the low pressure portion of the incident regulator showing the O-ring and washer.

The high pressure diaphragm was revealed by removing a large set screw/fitting from the bottom of the regulator barrel using a hex key. This fitting held a spring in place that easily slipped out once the fitting was removed. Inside the chamber, a minor but noticeable amount of particulate was observed. This chamber is separated from the high pressure gas by the diaphragm and sealed to the outside by the fitting. The diaphragm chamber was separated from the regulator barrel using a strap wrench and the particulate matter found was subsequently saved for chemical analysis.

### 4.3 SEM Examination

A scanning electron microscope (SEM) provided high magnification imaging of metallic components selected by RTI for more detailed examination. The SEM also features the capability of analyzing small areas of the components to determine the constituent elements present. This is accomplished through energy dispersive x-ray spectroscopy (EDS) built into the microscope and provides an approximate indication of the relative concentrations of the elements present. The EDS produces a spectra plot showing the results of the analysis. The spectra plots for all EDS analysis conducted are included in Attachment 7.

### 4.3.1 Incident valve stem fracture surface.

Figure 23 is a composite view of the four corners of the fracture surface on the incident valve stem. It is notable that the majority of the fracture surface from the left edge proceeding to the right has the appearance of a ductile tensile fracture. A small remaining area along the right edge, conversely, has the appearance of a shear failure. Otherwise there is nothing remarkable about the fracture surface. EDS of the fracture surface measured high levels of copper and zinc, indicating that the valve stem was manufactured from a brass alloy.


Figure 23. Composite SEM micrograph of incident valve stem fracture surface.

### 4.3.2 Incident pressure regulator adapter fracture surfaces

Figure 24 shows the fracture surface present on the pressure regulator adapter. As the exposed surfaces of the adapter, including the fracture surface, were covered in soot, the exact fracture morphology is not immediately apparent. Further compounding the characterization are areas that have the appearance of being mashed, or damaged, post fracture. These areas are also heavily sooted. Although there was a layer of soot on the adapter, EDS was able to measure high levels of copper and zinc which indicated that it was manufactured from a brass alloy.


Figure 24. SEM micrograph of pressure regulator adapter fracture surface.

### 4.3.3 Incident pressure regulator adapter air cup

Figure 25 shows the structure of the pressure regulator adapter air cup. It is composed of numerous metallic spheres approximately $250 \mu \mathrm{~m}$, or 0.250 mm , in size, bonded together in a process known as sintering. The random spacing between the spheres varies in size from a few microns to as much as 300 or 400 microns and acts as a filter for most particulates that might be present in the gas flow upstream of the regulator by creating a tortuous path. EDS of the air cup revealed metallic peaks of aluminum, nickel, copper, and zinc which are consistent with brass alloys.


Figure 25. SEM micrograph of incident air cup structure.

### 4.3.4 Cylinder inside surface

A small piece of the cylinder from the larger fragment was examined in the SEM, primarily for the purpose of performing EDS on the interior surface of the cylinder. Metallic peaks were measured for aluminum and titanium.

### 4.3.5 Exemplar and incident valve seat bodies

Figure 26 and Figure 27 show side by side comparison images of the exemplar and incident valve seat bodies in the threads and the smooth shaft, respectively. In Figure 27 the extent of the coating is clearly visible on both bodies. EDS of both valve seat bodies in an uncoated area produced copper and zinc peaks indicative of brass alloys.


Figure 26. SEM micrographs comparing threaded portions of exemplar (left) and incident (right) valve seat bodies.


Figure 27. SEM micrographs comparing smooth portions of exemplar (left) and incident (right) valve seat bodies.

### 4.4 Mechanical Testing and Metallography

RTI conducted basic mechanical property testing of the cylinder material including tensile, compressive, and microhardness tests. Specimens of the cylinder material were also taken for metallographic examination.

### 4.4.1 Sectioning

Sectioning of the cylinder proceeded according to the established protocol, with specimens for hardness and metallography cut from the fracture edge and specimens for the tensile and compressive tests cut from a non-deformed area near the cylinder bottom. Figure 28 shows the location of the billet cut for machining into tensile and compressive specimens. This location was chosen based on the results of spherometer measurements made of the cylinder inner curvature. It was necessary to locate an area of the cylinder, large enough to machine a full sized ASTM E-8M dog-bone specimen that had not been deformed significantly from the original curvature. Taking the specimen from such an area ensured that the cylinder material would be as close as possible to as-manufactured condition without any altering of strength properties due to deformation from the incident. Figure 29 shows the locations of the specimens cut for hardness and metallography.


Figure 28. View of the incident cylinder showing the location of the billet removed for machining into tensile and compressive test specimens.


Figure 29. View of the incident cylinder showing the locations of the four metallography/microhardness specimens.

### 4.4.2 Machining

Specimens were machined according to ASTM E-8M and ASTM E-9 for tensile and compressive testing, respectively. Both specimens were machined such that tensile and compressive loading axes were parallel to the longitudinal axis of the cylinder. See Figure 30 for the tensile specimen.


Figure 30. View of the tensile specimen machined from the incident tank.

### 4.4.3 Tensile and Compressive Testing

Both the tensile and compressive tests were conducted under quasi-static conditions. This resulted in a measured tensile yield strength of 318 MPa ( 46.1 ksi ) and a measured compressive yield strength of 347 MPa ( 50.3 ksi ). Additionally, an ultimate tensile strength of 354 MPa ( 51.4 ksi ) and tensile elongation of $15 \%$ were measured. Alcoa specifies minimum values of 290 MPa ( 42 ksi ), 345 MPa ( 50 ksi ), and $13 \%$ for the yield strength, tensile strength, and tensile elongation, respectively, for 6061-T6 aluminum.

### 4.4.4 Metallographic Examination

Samples A through D, as seen in Figure 31, were mounted and polished for metallographic examination. A weak hydrofluoric solution was used as an etchant to reveal the grain structure. The specimens were examined optically using a metallograph and images captured from various regions of all four samples. Figure 32 and Figure 33 show representative micrographs of samples A and D. Micrographs from all the samples were compared to a representative micrograph of 6061-T6 published in "Introduction to Aluminum Alloys and Tempers". ${ }^{7}$ The microstructures compare favorably, confirming that the incident cylinder was manufactured from 6061-T6.


Figure 31. View of the four metallography/microhardness specimens prior to hardness testing. The " $i$ " and " 0 " notations indicate the inner and outer surfaces, respectively.

[^3]

Figure 32. Sample A center 200x


Figure 33. Sample D center 200x

### 4.4.5 Hardness Results

Upon completion of the metallographic examination, samples A through D were subjected to microhardness testing. Two microhardness traverses were made on each sample. One proceeded from the fracture edge across the circumference of the sample and the other proceeded from the inner to outer surfaces of the sample. A Knoop microhardness value of 120 is generally expected for 6061-T6. The microhardness measurements from sample A measured noticeably lower than the expected values. The measured values ranging from 82.7 to 110 with average values for the two traverses of 97.7 and 101.3. Sample A was taken from a section of cylinder that had undergone combustion, so the reduction in hardness is attributed to exposure heat causing over aging. Samples B through D showed measured values that were more consistent with the expected with averages of 123.8 and 126.0 for $\mathrm{B}, 119.3$ and 125.8 for C , and 124.4 and 129.6 for D. The full set of results is included in Attachment 10.

### 4.5 Chemical Analysis

The level of purity of the oxygen that was allegedly contained in the incident cylinder dictates that a specific environment within the gas passages would be maintained at all times. If a contaminant is present in an oxygen rich environment, the potential for ignition increases dramatically. Wash samples using DuPont Vertrel MCA solvent were taken from: (1) the inner surface of the incident cylinder, (2) the surfaces of the incident valve and its components that are part of the gas passage, (3) the inner surface of the incident regulator green hose, (4) the interior surfaces of the incident regulator, and (5) surfaces of the exemplar valve and its components that are part of the gas passage. These samples were analyzed using Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR) for chemical composition. The samples taken from the exemplar valve were used as a control for those taken from the incident valve.

Additionally, Optical Emission Spectroscopy (OES) was performed on samples of the incident cylinder and the exemplar valve in order to specifically identify the aluminum and brass alloys, respectively, used to manufacture each.

### 4.5.1 FTIR Analysis

Full FTIR results are included in this report as Attachment 8. Other than the lubricant observed on the exemplar valve components, no substances were identified that could not be attributed to post incident sources. In other words, no unknown surface contaminants were found.

### 4.5.2 OES

Tables 1 and 2 contain the results of OES conducted on the cylinder and exemplar valve as compared to 6061 aluminum alloy and forging brass. The tested samples match well with the standard specifications for each alloy.

Table 1. Cylinder Valve Chemistry

| Element | Cylinder <br> Valve <br> $(\mathrm{wt} \%)$ | Requirements for <br> Forging Brass <br> UNS C37700 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 58.0 | 61.0 |
| Copper <br> $(\mathrm{Cu})$ | 0.26 | - | 0.30 |
| Iron <br> $(\mathrm{Fe})$ | 2.57 | 1.50 | 2.50 |
| Lead <br> $(\mathrm{Pb})$ | 0.06 | Information Only |  |
| Nickel <br> $(\mathrm{Ni})$ | $<0.005$ | Information Only |  |
| Phosphorus <br> $(\mathrm{P})$ | 0.21 | Information Only |  |
| Tin <br> $(\mathrm{Sn})$ | 38.47 | Remainder |  |
| Zinc <br> $(\mathrm{Zn})$ |  |  |  |

Table 2. Cylinder Chemistry

| Element | Tensile <br> Specimen <br> (wt\%) | Requirements for <br> Aluminum Alloy 6061 <br> UNS A96061 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | min |  | max |
| Aluminum <br> (Al) | Remainder | Remainder |  |
| Chromium <br> (Cr) | 0.08 | 0.04 | 0.35 |
| Copper <br> $(\mathrm{Cu})$ | 0.33 | 0.15 | 0.40 |
| Iron <br> $(\mathrm{Fe})$ | 0.18 | - | 0.70 |
| Lead <br> $(\mathrm{Pb})$ | $<0.005$ | Information Only |  |
| Magnesium <br> $(\mathrm{Mg})$ | 1.06 | 0.80 | 1.2 |
| Manganese <br> $(\mathrm{Mn})$ | $<0.005$ | - | 0.15 |
| Nickel <br> $(\mathrm{Ni})$ | $<0.005$ | Information Only |  |
| Silicon <br> $(\mathrm{Si})$ | 0.70 | 0.40 | 0.80 |
| Titanium <br> $(\mathrm{Ti})$ | 0.01 | - | 0.15 |
| Zinc <br> $(\mathrm{Cb})$ | $<0.005$ | - | 0.25 |

### 5.0 DISCUSSION

### 5.1 Origin of the Explosion

The explosion has been determined to have been caused by the ignition of aluminum cylinder material and originated between the threads of the cylinder valve and the cylinder neck opening. Analysis of the cylinder dimensions and materials revealed that the cylinder was made from a material consistent with aluminum 6061-T6, and the wall thickness was appropriate. Laboratory testing failed to reveal the presence of contaminants or oxygen incompatible materials that may have auto-ignited. The resulting ignition promoted the growth and spread of further combustion of cylinder wall material. The combustion of aluminum occurred and was restricted to the inside surface of the cylinder. The heat generated was sufficient to locally soften the cylinder wall, as demonstrated by the over-aged condition of metallographic specimen "A". The combustion also reduced the wall thickness. Additionally, the heat of combustion was released into the compressed gas, causing the gas pressure to rise. The combination of weakening the cylinder wall from heat of combustion, thinning due to the combustion of the cylinder material, and the increase in gas pressure from the release of heat from combustion, caused the cylinder to rupture and explosively release its contents.

The magnitude of aluminum material eroded from the event is greatest in the threaded neck opening region, indicative of the region of most intense and/or the longest burning. The initial fracture of the cylinder occurred along the base of the threaded opening, or "neck," proximate to the ignition origin and began to grow along the perimeter of the opening base, until realigning along the cylinder axis and growing down towards the cylinder base, as indicated in Figure 34. Some of the fracture surfaces were either melted or covered by melted aluminum that resolidified, but this could also be the result of the cylinder striking a hard surface which caused the cylinder to break up.


Figure 34. View showing the threaded neck opening region of the incident cylinder from the interior.

To evaluate the pattern of erosion about the cylinder opening, the depth of the threaded neck opening was measured at $30^{\circ}$ intervals from the flat exterior top to the point where erosion seemed to stop along the threaded wall. The resulting measurements are shown in Figure 35 in the radial diagram. The deepest erosion was set as the $0^{\circ}$ point. The least erosion appears to have occurred at the $120^{\circ}$. The $120^{\circ}$ region happened to be the area where the combustion deviated away from the opening and began to travel down the side of the cylinder interior, also being the direction where the hoop stress dominates the pattern of crack growth.


Figure 35. Depth measurements of the threaded neck cylinder opening, in mm.

The cylinder valve base also exhibits a matching pattern of erosion consistent with combustion from ignited aluminum, and alloying ${ }^{8}$ from flowing molten aluminum, all originating from the threaded region within the threaded neck cylinder opening, as seen in Figure 36. There is a region along the perimeter that exhibits fracture as well as melting and reaction. The gross erosion was angled to the axial normal, indicating that once ignited, the products of combustion were expelled downward into the cylinder. The damage pattern suggests the initial ignition and resultant kindling to promoted ignition occurred within the threads closest to the edge of where the threaded neck cylinder opening bottom and cylinder valve threads meet.

The depth of the existing material below the gasket lip was also measured to evaluate the pattern of erosion. The depths were measured at $30^{\circ}$ intervals with the $0^{\circ}$ set coincident with the valve

[^4]outlet centerline. As seen in Figure 37, the region with the greatest erosion was at $30^{\circ}$, with the least erosion at between $180^{\circ}$ and $240^{\circ}$. Superimposing the radial plot with Figure 35 and rotating the data $-60^{\circ}$ results in a near perfect overlay as seen in Figure 38. The closeness of fit supports the notion that the ignition point did occur within the threaded region. The exemplar cylinder valve threads extend 25 mm from the gasket lip to the flat bottom. The smallest depth of the valve threads measured 15 mm , indicating that perhaps 10 mm of material had eroded from the threads at that point.


Figure 36. View of cylinder valve threaded area.


Figure 37. Depth measurements of the valve threaded area, in mm.


Figure 38. Comparison of measured depths, in mm . Valve depth is rotated $-60^{\circ}$ to match.

The burn pattern within the cylinder had two distinct burn zones as seen in Figure 39. Zone 1 matched the hemispherical geometry of the domed cylinder top with a demarcation line of between 4 cm and 5 cm from the opening center. Zone 2 extended vertically down the cylinder wall about 20 cm from the opening, and having a width of about 11 cm . A fracture divided the second burn zone, indicating this region was the area from which the crack propagated after initiating at the base of the "neck." The area in Zone 1 was due to a circumferential combustion progressing from the origin point. The burn pattern in Zone 2 is a directional effect due to gravity as the cylinder may have been on its side. Despite the fracture starting at the base of the "neck," the weakened area of Zone 2 influenced the crack to propagate in that direction as the hoop stress from internal pressure was greater in this area.


Figure 39. View of interior surface showing the two distinct burn zones.

As the aluminum was consumed, the local wall thickness was reduced; the heat weakened the aluminum; and the internal gas pressure increased from the heat energy produced by the combustion. The reaction was likely to have been more of a burning rather than explosive process. Due to this combustion process the cylinder failed at a pressure less than 38 MPa $(5,500 \mathrm{psi})^{9}$ as the pressure relieving burst disk in the cylinder valve was still intact after the explosion.

[^5]
### 5.2 Ignition Mechanism

There are several ignition mechanisms that are possible within the incident cylinder. Some ignition mechanisms are: promoted ignition, where a source of heat acts to start the metal burning; friction ignition, where the rubbing of two surfaces together generates heat; particle impact, where the kinetic energy of a particle striking the surface is converted to heat; mechanical impact, much like the particle impact, heat is generated from the transfer of kinetic energy from an object having significantly more mass and less velocity than a particle; exposure of base metal, where the protective oxide layer is removed to expose the base metal, which in turn, oxidizes in the oxygen enriched atmosphere generating heat; auto ignition of contaminants or incompatible materials, where a material, such as a hydrocarbon based lubricant, is incompatible with use in an oxygen rich environment and self-ignites to promote ignition of the metal; heat of compression, where the rapid filling of a low pressure vessel from a high pressure line can cause the existing gas in the low pressure chamber to be driven into a compact region and compress to an increased temperature; charging rigid vessels, where the kinetic energy of the gas entering a low pressure vessel is converted to heat; electric arc, where the discharge across gaps between conventionally powered, electrically energized objects are heated from the very high temperature arc; static electric discharge, like an electric arc where a competent electric discharge occurs across a gap, but the electrical potential was created by a charge difference between the objects, not by electrical energizing; and acoustic resonance, where the oscillations of acoustic pressure waves from flowing gas create a temperature rise within the resonant cavity. ${ }^{10}$

The incident cylinder valve was found closed. The extents of heat and combustion effects were limited to the entrance of the cylinder valve at the point where the pick-up tube entered the valve body. At that point in the cylinder valve and beyond, there was no evidence of heat or combustion as the valve interior wall surfaces appeared clean and without heat effects. Plastic components within the cylinder valve were spared heating as they did not suffer any melting,

[^6]warping, combustion, or exhibit soot. Additionally, the valve seat was at the most forward position, indicating that the valve was shut at the time of the incident. The laboratory testing also failed to reveal the presence of any identifiable materials that are non-compatible with high purity oxygen systems. It would be expected that if such a substance existed prior to the fire, remnants of the substance or its by-products would still exist.

As a result, the following ignition mechanisms can be ruled out: particle impact; incompatible materials within the cylinder valve; charging a rigid vessel; heat of compression; static electric discharge; and acoustic resonance. This leaves electric arcing, mechanical impact, exposure of base metal, promoted ignition, and friction ignition. Electric arcing and promoted ignition are ruled out as improbable, thus leaving mechanical impact, exposure of base metal and friction ignition as the most likely causes. The actual mechanism of ignition could not be determined.

### 5.3 Cylinder Compliance with the Federal Regulations

### 5.3.1 Compliance with Labeling

Compressed oxygen gas is considered a hazardous material, and is regulated under Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulation, Part 172, Sub Chapter B. As found in the "Hazardous Materials Table," §172.101, oxygen, as a compressed gas: has a Hazard Classification or Division of 2.2 (non-flammable gas); has an Identification number of UN1072; must be label coded as 2.2 or 5.1 (oxidizer); is subject to the special provisions of $\S 172.102$ A14 and A52; and must be packaged as per $\S 172.302$ for bulk packaging, or $\S 172.314$ and 315 for non-bulk packaging, with exceptions found in $\S 172.306$. Of the exceptions provided, none provided an exception to the labeling requirements for the incident cylinder. In summary, the incident cylinder should have been minimally labeled with a diamond shaped, durable label clearly marking the contents as "oxygen" followed by a " 2.2 ". ${ }^{11}$ However, the Code is silent with regards to identification of the degree of cleanliness, as indicated in ASTM G 93.

[^7]In accordance with the federal regulations, the incident cylinder should have possessed a label indicating that the contents of the cylinder were compressed gas oxygen. The incident cylinder possessed two decals or labels. The first, shown in Figure 2, indicated that the cylinder had been cleaned in accordance with $\mathrm{O}_{2}$ service. There is no indication as to who may have stamped and applied the decal, or as to what procedure was followed to certify the cylinder was properly cleaned. The failure to provide this information is counter to the suggestions of the Compressed Gas Association, ${ }^{12}$ and a violation of the ASTM G 93 which states as follows:
12.2 Package Marking:
12.2.1 Each oxygen cleaned and packaged article shall be clearly labeled to include the following information:
12.2.1.1 The manufacturer, component identification, date cleaned, responsible department or agent,
12.2.1.2 Notification that it has been specially cleaned for oxygen service, such as oxygen cleaned, cleaned for oxygen service or specially cleaned,
12.2.1.3 Identification of cleaning method used, such as "Cleaned in accordance with ASTM G 93, Verification Type I, Test 1 through 4, Type II, Test 1, Level A, and Test 2, Level 175" or "Cleaned in accordance with ASTM G-XXX" (the manufacturer's or purchaser's specification).

The statement on the decal "Tank \& Valve Have Been Cleaned In Accordance With $\mathrm{O}_{2}$ Service" is not appropriate as it fails to indicate to what standard and level the cylinder has been cleaned, and who performed the cleaning. The decal does not provide the necessary information needed to ensure that the cylinder is appropriate for use with oxygen enriched gases. Additionally, the incident cylinder lacked the labeling as required by Federal statute. Should the incident tank have been used for Nitrox at $40 \%$ oxygen concentration or less, the IANDT label would have been sufficient and appropriate.

[^8]Had the requirements of proper labeling been adhered to, there would not have been a need to produce an inadequate label indicating the incident cylinder had been cleaned for oxygen use. Use of the incident cylinder prior to being labeled is unknown. The entity that allegedly cleaned the incident cylinder for oxygen use should have affixed the federally mandated label prior to allowing the incident cylinder to be used with compressed oxygen. Without further information regarding the events preceding the incident, it is impossible to determine if the inappropriate labeling played a part in the incident.

### 5.3.2 Compliance with Regulations for 3AL Cylinder

The requirements for a 3AL cylinder are found in Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, part 178.46. The regulation dictates the cylinder material is to be similar to aluminum alloy 6061 with a T6 heat treatment with the mechanical properties having a minimum yield strength of 241 MPa ( $35,000 \mathrm{psi}$ ), a minimum tensile strength of $262 \mathrm{MPa}(38,000 \mathrm{psi})$, and a minimum elongation of $14 \%$. A sample of the cylinder was removed for tensile testing and compression testing. The sample was machined from the wall section having as much of the original curvature as possible to minimize the effects of work hardening from the accident. The specimen, seen in Figure 40, measured $12.93 \mathrm{~mm}(0.509 \mathrm{in})$ wide by $9.68 \mathrm{~mm}(0.381 \mathrm{in})$ thick by $131.75 \mathrm{~mm}(5.187 \mathrm{in})$ long. The testing performed in this investigation revealed that the cylinder material had a yield strength of $318 \mathrm{MPa}(46,100 \mathrm{psi})$, a tensile strength of 354 MPa ( $51,400 \mathrm{psi}$ ), and an elongation of $15 \%$ - exceeding the minimum requirements of the regulation.


Figure 40. Tensile test specimen and tensile test.

Section 178.46(d) of the CFR provides for a minimum wall thickness. The regulation states that "The minimum wall thickness must be such that the wall stress at the minimum specified test pressure will not exceed 80 percent of the minimum yield strength nor exceed 67 percent of the minimum ultimate tensile strength as verified by physical tests in paragraph (i) of this section." The wall thickness was measured to be 9.78 mm . The prescribed minimum test pressure was 34.5 $\mathrm{MPa}(5,000 \mathrm{psi})^{13}$. Using the measured mechanical properties, the results were that the wall stress measured $63.7 \%$ of the yield stress and $57.1 \%$ of the ultimate stress, which were below the regulation maximums. The resulting analysis indicates the wall thickness of the incident cylinder exceeded the minimum required by the regulation.

A sample of the material from the tension specimen was subjected to an alloy composition analysis. The incident cylinder material was found to be consistent with aluminum 6061 with T6 temper.

[^9]
### 6.0 CONCLUSIONS

The opinions expressed in this report are based on RTI's inspection and evaluation of the evidence; and engineering analysis using generally accepted scientific and engineering methodologies. These opinions are also based on RTI's education, background, knowledge, and experience in the fields of mechanical engineering, material science, chemistry, fluid dynamics, thermodynamics, and physics.

RTI concludes, to within a reasonable degree of engineering certainty that:

1. There is no evidence to suggest that non-compliance with the hazardous materials regulations played a part in the incident cylinder failure; however, modifications to the regulatory standards may be necessary.
2. The incident cylinder was not labeled as required by the hazardous materials regulations. However, it is uncertain if the failure to properly label the incident cylinder played a part in the incident.
3. The incident cylinder failure was not due to excess thermal exposure from an external source.
4. Laboratory testing failed to reveal any evidence of contamination from an oxygen incompatible substance on the incident cylinder, cylinder valve, hoses, and regulator.
5. There were no problems evident with the incident cylinder, except for the way it was labeled.
6. There were no problems evident with the incident cylinder valve.
7. There were no problems evident with the incident regulator and pressure lines.
8. The ignition of the fire that led to an explosion originated within the threaded section of the cylinder neck opening. The actual mechanism of ignition could not be determined.

RTI reserves the right to amend or supplement this report and its conclusions or recommendations should additional information become available.

Respectfully submitted,


Richard B. Loucks, Ph.D., P.E.
Senior Mechanical Engineer


Matthew Wagenhofer, Ph.D.
Mechanical Engineer

# ATTACHMENT 1 

Test Protocol

RTI Group, LLC

# TEST PROTOCOL 

November 29, 2011

RTI Matter Name: DOT - Ruptured SCUBA Cylinder
RTI Matter No.: 50151ME002
RTI Investigators:
Richard B. Loucks, Ph.D., P.E.
Matthew Wagenhofer, Ph.D.

## Background:

RTI was tasked through Government Contract DTPH56-12-P-000004, dated November 9, 2011, issued by Office of Acquisition Services US DOT/PHMSA/PHA-30 to perform an investigation on a DOT 3AL-3000 cylinder involved in a fatal accident to determine if non-compliance with Hazardous Materials Regulations played a part in the cylinder failure and if modification of the regulatory standards is necessary.

Additionally, the purpose of this contract is to evaluate the ruptured DOT 3AL-3000 cylinder valve and determine the following:

- The degree of exposure to thermal energy; and
- Evidence of oxygen contamination which may have resulted in the explosion (fire) inside the ruptured DOT 3AL cylinder.

On November 15, 2011, RTI Group, LLC (RTI) received four items from the Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA). These items are described as follows:

## 1) Yellow high pressure gas cylinder, Part 1

Smaller fragment from the cylinder, measures approximately 12 inches by 6 inches. Fragment displays the following marks near the neck: HY-MARK DOT-3AL 3000 OU

Cylinder has one decal and part of another:

Decal 1: "Tank \& Valve Have Been Cleaned For Premix, Oxygen Content 22 to 40\%" is not punched out. "Tank \& Valve Have Been Cleaned In Accordance With $\mathrm{O}_{2}$ Service" Is punched out at 2011. The month is uncertain.

Decal 2 (partial): for decompression use .... IANTD/IAND, Inc.

## 2) Yellow high pressure gas cylinder, Part 2

Larger section contains the bottom, neck and valve opening, measures approximately 24 inches by 14 inches. This item has the following markings near the neck: 0001 M5442 1007 S40 TC-3AL 207

This part of the cylinder contains the remaining portion of Decal 2 stating:

Decal 2 (partial): OXYGEN for decompression use only - MOD 20 FSW MOD 6 MSW WWW.IANTD.COM

## 3) High Pressure Tank Valve, DIN Valve,

Manufactured by Genesis containing a $5000 \mathrm{psi}, 30 \mathrm{lb} / \mathrm{hr}$ CG-1 type rupture disk. A pressure regulator adaptor is present in the opening which has a fractured outlet. The metal particle filter is evident in the opening. The rubber hand closure knob is present, but separate from the valve.

## 4) Regulator

Manufactured by Dive Rite, serial number 12008135, fitted with regulator fitting. The opening is occupied by the fractured end of the pressure regulator adaptor.

Attached to the regulator:

1. Black pressure line with dial gage on high pressure side of regulator. Dial gage face is heat affected and the gage is illegible.
2. Length of green pressure line stating "WARNING Do not exceed 250 psi (17 bar) high pressure may cause damage or personal injury" no manufacturer identified. Distal end terminates unattached. Low pressure side

## Objective:

Under the tasking directive of the contract, sub-section 3.02 "Advanced Analysis and Examination", as part of the investigation the evidence is to be subjected to a series of invasive, therefore destructive, examinations in which sophisticated laboratory equipment will be employed, such as Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR), Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM), Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy (EDS), metallography, alloy chemistry, hardness testing and tension and compression testing. This protocol addresses the schedule and procedures that will be performed to fulfill this task.

## Date, Time and Location:

- Tuesday, December 6, 2011 at 10:00 am pacific coast time
- ANAMET, Inc.

26102 Eden Landing Road, Suite 3
Hayward, CA 94545-3811

- Local Contact: Kenneth Pytlewski, 800-377-7768 OR Ken@Anametinc.com


## Procedure:

## Phase I - Initial Examination.

Document the condition of the evidence through the use of field notes and still photography. The use of optical microscopy will be used where appropriate. This process is non-destructive and is intended to document the evidence prior to any alterations.

## Phase II - Search for the presence of oxygen non-compatible substances.

An examination in search for materials typically found in SCUBA dive operations, such as silicone greases found in diving gear (dimethylsiloxane), hydrocarbon greases/oils used in diving gas compressors, perfluorinated lubricants found in Nitrox diving gear, and other lubricant materials such as Tribolube (ALI Aerospace Lubricants), Christo Lube (Lubrication Technologies, Inc.), IKV-Fluor \& Zarox, etc. With the use of solvents, such as: Asahiklin AK 225 (Hydrochlorofluorocarbons); DuPont Vertrel XF, DuPont Vertrel MCA (Hydrofluorocarbon); or 3M HFE 7100, 3M HFE 71DE (Hydrofluoroether), obtain samples from within the valve gas passage area and subject the samples for FTIR analysis. The solvent will be decided upon at the time of the examination.

## High Pressure Tank Valve

Subject valve and regulator will have to be disassembled to reveal any existing gasket/seal materials, provide access to components for solvent washing and sample collection. With each disassembly, each component will be documented, and then the areas upstream of the containment feature will be searched for the presence of non-oxygen compatible materials. The disassembly will proceed in the following order:

1. Test the valve closure mechanism to determine if the valve is open or closed. Mark alignment of the gland nut to the valve body prior to turning with sharpie.
2. Remove the pressure regulator adaptor.
3. Remove the CG-1 burst disk pressure relief device.
4. Remove the closure mechanism. The gland nut will be removed exposing a series of gaskets and back up rings. These will be removed to gain access to the stem and the high pressure
seat. The condition of the high pressure seat will be inspected by SEM/EDS followed by solvent wash for FTIR analysis. Components will be removed until the valve body is empty.

Samples of the valve body will be obtained for chemistry analysis to determine the alloy of the materials used.

Material from the threads of the valve will be removed and inspected under the SEM. They will be removed using a pick and collected onto carbon tape for mounting on a SEM stage. Alternately, a segment section of the threads will be cut from the valve, polished and mounted, then inspected using the SEM.

Items having been separated from the parent object will be secured within a plastic container and labeled using the scheme: Part xx followed by a lower case alpha character, e.g. "Part 3-a Gland Nut".

## Pressure Regulator Adaptor

The fractured surface of the pressure regulator adaptor will be examined using the SEM to determine the mode of fracture and the presence of foreign materials. The air filter cup within the adaptor will be subjected to SEM analysis to identify both the discolored material on the filter surface and any particles that may be trapped in the filter. Subsequently, the filter will be subject to a solvent wash to determine by FTIR the presence of any contaminants.

## Regulator

The high pressure hose attachment will be removed and the interior of the tubing will be inspected. The low pressure tubing will be removed and inspected. The interior of the regulator will be inspected to the extent possible from the open ports. If possible, a solvent swab will be taken though a high pressure port and subject to FTIR to determine the presence of contaminants. If contaminants are present, the regulator will be dismantled.

## Tank Material

Internal surfaces of the tank will be examined for the presence of oxygen non-compatible substances.
Solvent washing of the internal area will provide samples for FTIR analysis in four areas, indicated as areas "A", "B", "C", and "D" and any other areas deemed of interest on the day of the examination.


Figure 1. Solvent was areas for FTIR sampling.

Phase 3 - Mechanical properties testing of Cylinder material.

Several sections of the cylinder will be subjected to hardness testing, alloy chemistry, metallographic analysis and tension and compression testing.

Hardness traverses following the inner circumference of the tank will be made at several elevations along the length of the tank. The approximate elevations are indicated in Figure 2. The method of testing will be as follows:

1. Four sections of cylinder material of approximately 2 inches wide by 1 inch deep will be excised from the main body with the use of a liquid cooled diamond blade saw.
2. After removing the section from the main body, $\mathrm{a}^{1 / 2}$ inch axial wide circumferentially cut section will be removed for subsequent metallographic mounting, polish and etch. This creates two subsub sections for evidence labeling where a lower case Roman numeral will be added to the nomenclature, e.g. "Part 1-a-i Excised section from Cylinder, Metallographic" and "Part 1-a-ii Hardness Specimen from cylinder". See Figure 3.
3. The fracture surface from the larger section will be examined using the SEM to determine from the fracture morphology the mode of fracture, direction of crack propagation, EDS, and any other information discovered in the examination. The section will then be subjected to a Rockwell hardness test on the internal surface, not directly on the fracture surface.
4. The smaller section will be cast into a resin material with the cut surface including the fracture surface for examination. The specimen will be polished, then etched to allow examination of the grain structure. A profile of Knoop micro hardness tests will be performed at 1mm intervals in two directions: circumferentially along the mid thickness from the fracture surface for 1.5 cm ; and along the radial from the internal to the external surface.


Figure 2. Approximate test sites for hardness testing and metallographic examination.


Figure 3. Hardness testing and Metallographic sectioning. $\otimes$ illustrate Knoop micro hardness locations along the traverse. (not to scale)

Tension and compression testing will be performed to determine the mechanical properties of the alloy. Sample material will be collected from the machined samples for chemical analysis to determine the aluminum alloy.

The tension and compression tests will be performed as follows. A spherometer will be used to measure the radius of curvature of the tank in its as-received condition. Baseline inner surface curvature measurements will be made on the intact bottom region of the tank. Further inner surface curvature measurements will be made along the length of the tank over all of the regions to determine the least
deformed section of the tank. Visual inspection of the as-received tank indicates that this section is likely to correspond to that indicated in Figure 3. At least one (1) tension test specimen and two (2) compression test specimens will be machined from this region. The tension test specimen will be oriented such that the tensile axis of the specimen is parallel to the longitudinal axis of the tank. One of the compression specimens will be oriented such that the compression axis is parallel to the radial axis of the tank. The other compression specimen will be oriented such that the compression axis is parallel to the transverse axis of the tank. The transverse axis is defined by a line tangent to a circumference around the tank located at the midpoint of the tank wall. Any additional specimens for which there is sufficiently un-deformed material will duplicate these three orientations.

Dental mold compound will be used to make highly accurate replicas of the threads inside the neck of the tank prior to sectioning and mounting of the threads for metallographic and microscopic analysis. It is anticipated that the entire circumference of the threads will be replicated in two to four sections to ease removal of the molds from the inner threaded surface of the neck. Sufficient overlap will be included at both ends of each section so as to retain all details available. Measurements such as pitch, thread root depth, etc. will be made from the molds, if possible. The process will start by subjecting a portion of the threaded area to a solvent wash, the samples then subjected to FTIR analysis. Then the molding compound will be applied in quadrants with greater than $90^{\circ}$ coverage. The boundaries will be indicated on the opening rim with a Sharpie and the molds labeled following the stated nomenclature.

Once the thread mold profiles are completed, the opening will be sectioned to allow SEM/EDS examination of the threaded section and subsequent metallographic mounting. A section, comprising of no more than $30^{\circ}$ of radial opening on the section opposite that material still attached to the cylinder body will be sectioned. The section will be subject to SEM/EDS examination to resolve the thread/root regions for contaminants and other information. The section will then be mounted with the cut surface exposed for examination, polished and etched to reveal the grain structure, and examine for contaminants trapped beneath smeared or swaged aluminum.

Phase 4 - Collection of Evidence, logging and
retrograde. Each item will be double checked to ensure it has been catalogued, logged, and properly packaged for storage. All graphs, apparatus created images, and measurements will be compiled for use in the final report.

## About RTI Group, LLC

The RTI Group, LLC is a pioneering, global accident and failure investigation and safety management consultancy serving the legal and insurance markets. With origins dating back to 1975, RTI's forensic engineering services span comprehensive high-risk industries and transportation operations disciplines, including aviation, marine, rail, utilities, nuclear, explosion, and construction.

Headquartered in Annapolis, Maryland, RTI Group, LLC was founded in 2003 as a forensic engineering services company, with its origins dating back to 1975, by the founder of FTI Consulting, Inc. Anamet Inc., a forensic materials testing laboratory in San Francisco, California became a vital asset to RTI in 2003. In 2004, RTI founded its London office, RTI Ltd., as a wholly owned UK subsidiary that is the home office of the Aviation and Marine Departments. RTI Latin America was established in 2008 in Panama City, Panama as an extension of the London office to serve Latin America and, in particular, the Panamanian Flag State and Canal Operations. RTI opened its Bahrain branch office in April of 2011 to provide security and safety services, as well as access to other RTI disciplines in the Gulf and Middle East region. RTI continues to expand its worldwide range of analytical capabilities and services to other parts of the globe.

RTI Group, LLC

February 23, 2012 Amendment to
TEST PROTOCOL
November 29, 2011
RTI Matter Name: DOT - Ruptured SCUBA Cylinder
RTI Matter No.: 50151ME002
RTI Investigators:
Richard B. Loucks, Ph.D., P.E.
Matthew Wagenhofer, Ph.D.
Under Procedure, Phase II, High Pressure Tank Valve, change item 4 and add the following items of the disassembly procedure to read as follows:
4. Remove the closure mechanism. The gland nut will be removed exposing a series of gaskets and back up rings. These will be removed to gain access to the stem and the high pressure seat.
5. Perform an electrical continuity test and measure the electrical resistance between several points on the outer and inner surfaces of the valve seat body using a multimeter.
6. The condition of the high pressure seat will be inspected by SEM/EDS followed by solvent wash for FTIR analysis. Components will be removed until the valve body is empty.

# ATTACHMENT 2 

## Evidence Receipt Photos



The enclosed items comprise all the pieces of the ruptured
scuba cylinder. The testing is contracted for the value
assembly. Please hold the to pieces of the cyinder in
case PHMSA HQ decides on further testing. The value
assembly is on top and the smaller piece of the cyinder is
under the larger piece.
Please sign the enclosed DOT property inventory report in
the signature receiving block on the bottom part of the
form. If you can, scan the document and send it to:
Emest.quail@dot.gov
Or mail a copy to: US DOT/PHMSA
233 Peachtree St. Suite 602
Atlanta, GA 30303

under the larger piece.
Please sign the enclosed DOT property inventio
the signature receiving block on the bottom par
form. If you can, scan the document and send it




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# ATTACHMENT 3 

## Exemplar Valve Photos










# ATTACHMENT 4 

## Exemplar Regulator Photos


















# ATTACHMENT 5 

Testing Sign-in Sheet

1 ( ) Materials Engineering \& Laboratory Testing<br>26102 Eden Landing Road, suite $3 \cdot$ HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA $94545 \cdot(510)$ 887-8811 • Fax (510) 887-8427

Date: March 12, 2012
Anamet Job Number: 5004.7109

Name

## Mathew/Nagechofer

Company Name


Representing


Matter: Ruptured SCUBA Cylinder
RIT Matter No: 50151ME002

U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

ADAM HORSLEY
Attorney-Advisor
Office of the Chief Counsel

East Building, E26-202
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Tel: 202-366-8000
Fax: 202-366-7041 adam.horsley@dot.gov

| Name | BILL OLIVER |
| :--- | :--- |
| Company Name |  |
| Representing | $\frac{\text { SHERWOOD SCUBA LIE }}{\text { SAN }}$ |

## SHERWOOD SCUBA,LLC.

164.1 East Saint Andrew Place, Santa Ana. California 92705

Bill Oliver
bill@sherwoodscuba.com
Director of Product Dewabment
TL: $\quad 714.259 .4780$ ext 7000
EX: $\quad 714.259 .4789$

## SHERWOOD

SCUBA.

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GENESIS


Anamet,inc

Norman Yen
Materials Engineer
510-887-8811

Materials Engineering \& Laboratory Testing, Since 1958
26102 Eden Landing Rd., Suite 3
Hayward, CA 94545-3811
800-377-7768 • Fax: 510-887-8427
www.anametinc.com
norman@anametinc.com

## ATTACHMENT 6

## Photographs from Anamet Testing




Pill






Dive Right in Scuba 24222 W. Lockport St. Plainfield, IL, 60544
815-267-8400

## ORDER ID: 5611

SOLD TO:
Richard Loucks
29 Shadow Point
Edgewater, Maryland 2103
United States
United States
410-571-0712
ick bucksiehotmail.com
IP Address:
Payment Method: PayPal Express (including Credit

SHIP TO:
Richard Loucks
RichardLoucks
29 Stadow Point Ct
Edgewater, Maryland 21037
Edgewater, M
United States

Date Added
No order comments

comment





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Pergola sil. Va Suate e $11,11 / 13$
25010

INSTRUCTION FOR 232 bar SCUBA BREATHING AIR GASES READY VALVE
THIS LABEL IS TO be Removed by the costumer only and retained for future referenc

















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25010 Ponte $5 . M a r c o$ di Calcinato-BS- TTAL.Y Tel. $+39030 / 9683111$ - Fax $+39030 / 9880894$
pergola INSTRUCTION FOR 232 bar SCUBA BREATHING AIR GASES READY VAIVE THIS LABEL IS TO BE REMOVED BY THE COSTUMER ONLY AND RETAINED FOR FUTURE REFERENCE
Manufacturer general warranty conditions do not apply to Valve not inctalled. uned and maintained accordingly to the instructions contained in these
Warring Poper. Furthermore, Manufacturer general wartanty conditions do not apply is the following.
repair or replacement due to normal wear or damage during roatine maintenance
damage tap conngonents whose fragility is for technical reasors unavoidable and determined by product design daminge anting from modifications not included in the procediver in this warming peper
Only thase periess who have read these technical imstructions thoroughly and understand them by procedurei sot included in this warning paper Failarr to fallow any instructian ar warwing vidhin this instruction manuat or on any Valve label may result in a serious accident invelving either pernumal injury, propery damatye or boik.
Since ithe Valve is being purrchaud and used for
and ait produet user marning, instructions and labets are the responsibility of maintained and instatled onfy by indirifuatir who have beren trained by a reognized agency in Seuba Dining. must follow the relevant instructions attached to the spare parts kit.
This high presuure cylinder valve is derigned, intended and approved for scuba diving and must be used for Breathing Air Gaser (EAN, Nitrox and Trimix G.M.); it should not be used for any other purposes. If the Valve user has any quetilons regarding the proper application or use of the Valve he mast call Pergola. Any non-approved use or application and/or any non-approved modification of the Valve may retult in a serious accident or personal injury for which the manufacturer will not be responsible. Athention the Breathing Air Gases must be conform at EN 12021 requirements.
The valve is designed and manufactured according to: CE 97n3, EN 150 10297 and UNI EN250


The Valve is to be und for oxveen enriched aic, the Valve is to be operated, maintained and installed only by ind viduals who have been trained by a recognied agency in the use of oxyen enriched breathlug air, Initallation

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Dive Right in Scuba 24222 W. Lockport St. Plainfield, IL, 60544 815-267-8400

ORDER ID: 6026
SOLD TO:
Rick Loucks
29 Shadow Point Ct
Edgewater, Maryland 21037
United States
410-571-0712
tick bucksm hotmali.com
IP Address: 70.90.83.177
ISP: cbrccoffee.com
Payment Method: Credit Card
Products
SHIP TO:
Richard Loucks





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# ATTACHMENT 7 

## EDS Spectra and Tables







Air Cup

| Element | Line Type | Apparent Concentration | k Ratio | Wt\% | Wt\% Sigma | Standard Label | Default Standard | Standard Calibration Date |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | K_series | 5.20 | 0.01749 | 26.49 | 0.23 | SiO2 | Yes |  |
| F | K_series | 1.06 | 0.00208 | 4.44 | 0.17 | CaF2 | Yes |  |
| Mg | K_series | 0.10 | 0.00063 | 1.00 | 0.06 | MgO | Yes |  |
| AI | K_series | 3.65 | 0.02623 | 31.48 | 0.19 | Al2O3 | Yes |  |
| Si | K_series | 0.05 | 0.00038 | 0.49 | 0.04 | SiO2 | Yes |  |
| S | K_series | 0.05 | 0.00046 | 0.39 | 0.04 | FeS2 | Yes |  |
| Ca | K_series | 0.08 | 0.00069 | 0.42 | 0.04 | Wollastonite | Yes |  |
| Fe | K_series | 0.06 | 0.00064 | 0.36 | 0.06 | Fe | Yes |  |
| Ni | K_series | 2.69 | 0.02688 | 15.99 | 0.18 | Ni | Yes |  |
| Cu | K_series | 1.94 | 0.01937 | 12.33 | 0.20 | Cu | Yes |  |
| Zn | K_series | 0.90 | 0.00901 | 5.85 | 0.18 | Zn | Yes |  |
| Sn | L_series | 0.11 | 0.00106 | 0.75 | 0.09 | Sn | Yes |  |
| Total: |  |  |  | 100.00 |  |  |  |  |

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## Pressure Regulator Adapter Debris

| Element | Line Type | Apparent Concentration | k Ratio | Wt\% | Wt\% Sigma | Standard Label | Default Standard | Standard Calibration Date |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| C |  |  |  | 88.47 |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | K_series | 2.37 | 0.00797 | 7.56 | 0.07 | SiO2 | Yes |  |
| Mg | K_series | 0.03 | 0.00021 | 0.04 | 0.00 | MgO | Yes |  |
| Al | K_series | 1.75 | 0.01260 | 1.86 | 0.01 | Al2O3 | Yes |  |
| Si | K_series | 0.03 | 0.00025 | 0.03 | 0.00 | SiO2 | Yes |  |
| S | K_series | 0.02 | 0.00015 | 0.02 | 0.00 | FeS2 | Yes |  |
| Cl | K_series | 0.01 | 0.00010 | 0.01 | 0.00 | NaCl | Yes |  |
| Ca | K_series | 0.11 | 0.00101 | 0.12 | 0.00 | Wollastonite | Yes |  |
| Fe | K_series | 0.02 | 0.00019 | 0.02 | 0.00 | Fe | Yes |  |
| Cu | K_series | 0.58 | 0.00579 | 0.79 | 0.02 | Cu | Yes |  |
| Zn | K_series | 0.73 | 0.00730 | 1.00 | 0.02 | Zn | Yes |  |
| Pb | M_series | 0.07 | 0.00067 | 0.08 | 0.01 | PbTe | Yes |  |
| Total: |  |  |  | 100.00 |  |  |  |  |

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Pressure Regulator Adapter Base Metal

| Element | Line Type | Apparent Concentration | k Ratio | Wt $\%$ | Wt\% Sigma | Standard Label | Default Standard | Standard Calibration Date |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Cu | K_series | 4.63 | 0.04633 | 60.35 | 0.37 | Cu | Yes |  |
| Zn | K_series | 3.05 | 0.03054 | 39.65 | 0.37 | Zn | Yes |  |
| Total: |  |  |  | 100.00 |  |  |  |  |

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Tank Inside Surface A

| Element | Line Type | Apparent Concentration | k Ratio | Wt\% | Wt\% Sigma | Standard Label | Default Standard | Standard Calibration Date |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| O | K_series | 1.94 | 0.00654 | 48.57 | 0.47 | SiO2 |  |  |
| Mg | K_series | 0.05 | 0.00032 | 0.98 | 0.09 | MgO | Yes |  |
| Al | K_series | 1.54 | 0.01103 | 27.92 | 0.30 | Al2O3 | Yes |  |
| Si | K_series | 0.14 | 0.00111 | 3.30 | 0.12 | Yes |  |  |
| S | K_series | 0.07 | 0.00064 | 1.42 | 0.08 | FeS2 |  |  |
| Ca | K_series | 0.33 | 0.00294 | 5.13 | 0.12 | Wollastonite | Yes |  |
| Ti | K_series | 0.65 | 0.00647 | 12.37 | 0.21 | Yes |  |  |
| Fe | K_series | 0.02 | 0.00016 | 0.30 | 0.10 | Yi | Yes |  |
| Total: |  |  |  | 100.00 |  | Ye | Yes |  |

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Valve Body Thread Deposit

| Element | Line Type | Apparent Concentration | k Ratio | Wt\% | Wt\% Sigma | Standard Label | Default Standard | Standard Calibration Date |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| C |  |  |  | 86.25 |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | K_series | 1.54 | 0.00519 | 4.77 | 0.08 | SiO2 | Yes |  |
| F | K_series | 0.83 | 0.00164 | 0.90 | 0.03 | CaF2 | Yes |  |
| Mg | K_series | 0.07 | 0.00049 | 0.09 | 0.00 | MgO | Yes |  |
| Al | K_series | 2.14 | 0.01535 | 2.38 | 0.01 | Al2O3 | Yes |  |
| Si | K_series | 0.03 | 0.00021 | 0.03 | 0.00 | SiO2 | Yes |  |
| Fe | K_series | 0.03 | 0.00025 | 0.03 | 0.01 | Fe | Yes |  |
| Ni | K_series | 0.04 | 0.00036 | 0.04 | 0.01 | Ni | Yes |  |
| Cu | K_series | 1.80 | 0.01795 | 2.42 | 0.03 | Cu | Yes |  |
| Zn | K_series | 2.20 | 0.02201 | 2.98 | 0.04 | Zn | Yes |  |
| Pb | M_series | 0.09 | 0.00079 | 0.10 | 0.01 | PbTe | Yes |  |
| Total: |  |  |  | 100.00 |  |  |  |  |

The Business of Science ${ }^{*}$

Valve Seat Body Exemplar 1

| Element | Line Type | Apparent Concentration | k Ratio | Wt $\%$ | Wt\% Sigma | Standard Label | Default Standard | Standard Calibration Date |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Cu | K_series | 7.32 | 0.07318 | 62.01 | 0.36 | Cu | Yes |  |
| Zn | K_series | 4.50 | 0.04498 | 37.99 | 0.36 | Zn | Yes |  |
| Total: |  |  |  | 100.00 |  |  |  |  |

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Valve Seat Body Exemplar 2

| Element | Line Type | Apparent Concentration | k Ratio | Wt\% | Wt\% Sigma | Standard Label | Default Standard | Standard Calibration Date |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Cu | K_series | 4.45 | 0.04453 | 62.57 | 0.42 | Cu | Yes |  |
| Zn | K_series | 2.67 | 0.02672 | 37.43 | 0.42 | Zn | Yes |  |
| Total: |  |  |  | 100.00 |  |  |  |  |

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Valve Seat Body

| Element | Line Type | Apparent Concentration | k Ratio | Wt\% | Wt\% Sigma | Standard Label | Default Standard | Standard Calibration Date |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Cu | K_series | 8.82 | 0.08822 | 66.03 | 0.36 | Cu | Yes |  |
| Zn | K_series | 4.55 | 0.04553 | 33.97 | 0.36 | Zn | Yes |  |
| Total: |  |  |  | 100.00 |  |  |  |  |

The Business of Science ${ }^{*}$

Valve Stem Fracture

| Element | Line Type | Apparent Concentration | k Ratio | Wt $\%$ | Wt\% Sigma | Standard Label | Default Standard | Standard Calibration Date |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Cu | K_series | 3.93 | 0.03926 | 59.43 | 0.40 | Cu | Yes |  |
| Zn | K_series | 2.69 | 0.02688 | 40.57 | 0.40 | Zn | Yes |  |
| Total: |  |  |  | 100.00 |  |  |  |  |

The Business of Science ${ }^{*}$

Valve Stem Coating

| Element | Line Type | Apparent Concentration | k Ratio | Wt $\%$ | Wt\% Sigma | Standard Label | Default Standard | Standard Calibration Date |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Cr | K_series | 6.39 | 0.06390 | 54.35 | 0.24 | Cr | Yes |  |
| Ni | K_series | 4.98 | 0.04982 | 45.65 | 0.24 | Ni | Yes |  |
| Total: |  |  |  | 100.00 |  |  |  |  |

The Business of Science ${ }^{*}$

Valve Stem Coating Debris

| Element | Line Type | Apparent Concentration | k Ratio | Wt\% | Wt\% Sigma | Standard Label | Default Standard | Standard Calibration Date |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| O | K_series | 3.66 | 0.01233 | 16.22 | 0.17 | SiO2 | Yes |  |
| F | K_series | 9.72 | 0.01908 | 53.47 | 0.24 | CaF 2 | Yes |  |
| Mg | K_series | 0.27 | 0.00180 | 4.22 | 0.08 | MgO | Yes |  |
| Si | K_series | 0.48 | 0.00377 | 5.15 | 0.07 | SiO2 | Yes |  |
| Cr | K_series | 1.23 | 0.01235 | 10.83 | 0.11 | Cr | Yes |  |
| Ni | K_series | 0.46 | 0.00457 | 3.97 | 0.10 | Ni | Yes |  |
| Zn | K_series | 0.65 | 0.00653 | 6.15 | 0.16 | Zn | Yes |  |
| Total: |  |  |  | 100.00 |  |  |  |  |

The Business of Science ${ }^{*}$

# ATTACHMENT 8 

## FTIR Spectra and Tables




Anamet, Inc.
26102 Eden Landing Road
Suite 3 .
Hayward, CA 94545


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26102 Eden Landing Road




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Hayward, CA 94545


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Hayward. CA 94545 Anamet, Inc.
26102 Eden Landing Road



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26102 Eden Landing Road
Suite 3


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 Anamet, inc.
26102 Eden Landing Road



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Hayward, CA 94545 Anamet, Inc.
26102 Eden Landing Road


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Hayward. CA 94545 Anamet, lnc.
26102 Eden Landing Road










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26102 Eden Landing Road

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 26102 Eden Landing Road Anamet, inc.

Lab. No. 5004.7109 RTI Group

## FTIR Spectra Characterization

| Sample | Part No. | Spectrum <br> No. | Characterization |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tank Interior | Loc. A, \#1 | rti3 | vinyl acetate and ester type polymers + calcium sulfate |
| Tank Interior | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Location A, } \\ & \# 2 \end{aligned}$ | rti4 | calcium sulfate + ester type polymer |
| Tank Interior | Location B | rti5 | calcium sulfate + ester type polymers |
| Tank Interior | Location C | rti6 | calcium sulfate |
| Tank Interior | Location C' | rti7 | terephthalate type polyester |
| Tank Interior | Location D | rti8 | calcium sulfate |
| Tank Exterior | Yellow Paint | rti9 | terephthalate type polyester |
| Tank Interior | White material 6 " to right of Location A | rti11 | calcium sulfate |
| Valve Seat Body | 1A | rti13 | fluoro-polymer |
| Valve Stem | 1B | rti16 | fluoro-polymer (fluorine confirmed by EDS) |
| Relief Valve | 1C | rti18 | fluoro-polymer |
| Gland Nut | 1D | rti19 | fluoro-polymer |
| Valve Body | 1E, <br> 22 mm orifice | rti20 | silicate(s) + ammonium salt + oxides |
| Valve Body | $\begin{aligned} & \hline 1 \mathrm{E}, \\ & 18 \mathrm{~mm} \text { orifice } \end{aligned}$ | rti21 | silicate(s) + ammonium salt + oxides |
| Valve Body | 1 E , <br> 12 mm orifice | rti22 | silicate(s) + ammonium salt + oxides |
| Valve Body | $1 \mathrm{E}, 5 \mathrm{~mm}$ orifice | rti23 | oxides |
| Regulator <br> Adapter Air <br> Cup | 1F | rti24 | fluoro-polymer |
| Regulator Body Diaphragm | 2aa, Print Side | rti25 | aromatic ester |
| Regulator Body <br> Diaphragm | 2aa, Non-Print Side | rti26 | aromatic ester |
| Regulator Body | 2aa, Non-Print Side | rti28 | calcium sulfate + calcium carbonate |

## FTIR Spectra Characterization

| Sample | Part No. | Spectrum No. | Characterization |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Retaining Ring | 2ab | rti29 | fluoro-polymer + ester |
| Spring Carrier | 2ac | rti30 | fluoro-polymer |
| Metal <br> Diaphragm <br> Retainer, <br> Interior | 2ad | rti34 | fluoro-polymer + ester |
| Metal <br> Diaphragm <br> Retainer | 2ad | rti35 | fluoro-polymer + silicate(s) + oxides |
| Main Regulator <br> Body | 2ae, 2ef, 2ag, <br> \& 2ah | rti36 | fluoro-polymer + ester |
| High Pressure <br>  <br> Adjustment <br> Sleeve | 2aj’ | rti38 | fluoro-polymer + ester |
| Mating Half <br> regulator <br> Adjuster <br> Adapter | 2ak | rti39 | fluoro-polymer |
| Green Hose, <br> Interior | 2b | rti40 | phthalate type ester |
| Valve Stem <br> Exemplar | 3A | rti31 | fluoro-polymer |
| Gland Nut <br> Bore Exemplar | 3B | rti32 | fluoro-polymer + ester |
| Valve Seat <br> Body <br> Exemplar | 3C | rti33 |  |

Submitted by:


Harold R. Harlan,
Director, Organic Chemistry Laboratories

## ATTACHMENT 9

Micrographs with HF Etch and Kellers Etch Micrograph images, in order of appearance

## HF Etch

Sample A Center 50x
Sample A Center 200x
Sample A Fracture 50x
Sample A Fracture 200x
Sample A Inside Surface 50x
Sample A Inside Surface 200x
Sample B Center 50x
Sample B Center 200x
Sample B Fracture 50x
Sample B Fracture 200x
Sample C Center 50x
Sample C Center 200x
Sample C Fracture 50x
Sample C Fracture 200x
Sample D Center 50x
Sample D Center 200x
Sample D Fracture 50x
Sample D Fracture 200x
Sample D Outside Surface 50x
Sample D Outside Surface 200x

## Attachment 9, continued

Kellers Etch<br>Sample A Center 50x<br>Sample A Center 200x<br>Sample A Fracture 50x<br>Sample A Fracture 200x<br>Sample A Inside Surface 50x<br>Sample A Inside Surface 200x<br>Sample B Center 50x<br>Sample B Center 200x<br>Sample B Fracture 50x<br>Sample B Fracture 200x<br>Sample C Center 50x<br>Sample C Center 200x<br>Sample C Fracture 50x<br>Sample C Fracture 200x<br>Sample D Center 50x<br>Sample D Center 200x<br>Sample D Fracture 50x<br>Sample D Fracture 200x<br>Sample D Outside Surface 50x<br>Sample D Outside Surface 200x
















C $-\frac{1}{0}$





0.25 mm










0.25 mm

0.05 mm

# ATTACHMENT 10 

## Microhardness Testing

- 



Table 1
Knoop Microhardness Traverse and Converted Rockwell Hardness of Sample A from Tank Outside Surface to Tank Inside Surface

| Distance <br> (inch) | HK500 | Converted <br> HRB |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0.000 | Outside Surface |  |
| 0.010 | 93.7 | 25 |
| 0.030 | 99.9 | 33 |
| 0.050 | 99.2 | 32 |
| 0.070 | 101.9 | 36 |
| 0.090 | 99.6 | 33 |
| 0.110 | 104.0 | 38 |
| 0.130 | 106.2 | 41 |
| 0.150 | 101.0 | 35 |
| 0.170 | 89.0 | 18 |
| 0.177 | 82.7 | 8 |
| 0.184 | Inside Surface |  |

Table 2
Knoop Microhardness Traverse and Converted Rockwell Hardness of Sample A from Tank Fracture Edge towards Tank Center

| Distance <br> (inch) | HK500 | Converted <br> HRB |
| :---: | ---: | :---: |
| 0.000 | Fracture Edge |  |
| 0.010 | 102.4 | 36 |
| 0.020 | 102.2 | 36 |
| 0.070 | 92.2 | 23 |
| 0.170 | 98.3 | 31 |
| 0.270 | 101.3 | 35 |
| 0.370 | 95.9 | 28 |
| 0.470 | 100.9 | 34 |
| 0.570 | 103.6 | 38 |
| 0.620 | 110.0 | 45 |
| 0.670 | 106.6 | 41 |

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Table 3
Knoop Microhardness Traverse and Converted Rockwell Hardness of Sample B from Tank Outside Surface to Tank Inside Surface

| Distance <br> (inch) | HK500 | Converted <br> HRB |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0.000 | Outside Surface |  |
| 0.010 | 122.3 | 59 |
| 0.020 | 123.7 | 61 |
| 0.030 | 121.7 | 59 |
| 0.060 | 117.9 | 53 |
| 0.100 | 116.8 | 53 |
| 0.130 | 122.6 | 60 |
| 0.160 | 118.3 | 53 |
| 0.200 | 125.8 | 63 |
| 0.230 | 133.6 | 67 |
| 0.260 | 124.7 | 62 |
| 0.290 | 128.0 | 64 |
| 0.320 | 122.9 | 60 |
| 0.350 | 125.9 | 63 |
| 0.358 | 128.3 | 64 |
| 0.363 | Inside Surface |  |

Table 4
Knoop Microhardness Traverse and Converted Rockwell Hardness of Sample B from Tank Fracture Edge towards Tank Center

| Distance <br> (inch) | HK500 | Converted <br> HRB |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0.000 | Fracture Edge |  |
| 0.010 | 128.5 | 64 |
| 0.020 | 131.7 | 66 |
| 0.030 | 133.0 | 66 |
| 0.080 | 130.7 | 65 |
| 0.130 | 121.0 | 58 |
| 0.180 | 127.5 | 64 |
| 0.230 | 128.0 | 64 |
| 0.280 | 128.8 | 64 |
| 0.330 | 125.3 | 62 |
| 0.380 | 120.8 | 58 |
| 0.430 | 129.8 | 65 |
| 0.480 | 119.3 | 56 |
| 0.530 | 117.3 | 53 |
| 0.580 | 122.7 | 60 |

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Table 5
Knoop Microhardness Traverse and Converted Rockwell Hardness of Sample C from Tank Outside Surface to Tank Inside Surface

| Distance <br> (inch) | HK500 | Converted <br> HRB |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0.000 | Outside Surface |  |
| 0.010 | 116.5 | 52 |
| 0.020 | 119.6 | 57 |
| 0.030 | 117.9 | 55 |
| 0.060 | 117.5 | 55 |
| 0.100 | 116.2 | 52 |
| 0.130 | 115.5 | 51 |
| 0.160 | 115.0 | 51 |
| 0.200 | 117.0 | 53 |
| 0.230 | 120.3 | 57 |
| 0.260 | 125.3 | 62 |
| 0.290 | 122.0 | 59 |
| 0.320 | 123.0 | 60 |
| 0.350 | 122.8 | 60 |
| 0.358 | 121.3 | 58 |
| 0.364 | Inside Surface |  |

Table 6
Knoop Microhardness Traverse and Converted Rockwell Hardness of Sample C from Tank Fracture Edge towards Tank Center

| Distance <br> (inch) | HK500 | Converted <br> HRB |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0.000 | Fracture Edge |  |
| 0.010 | 128.6 | 64 |
| 0.020 | 135.0 | 67 |
| 0.030 | 131.3 | 65 |
| 0.080 | 128.3 | 64 |
| 0.130 | 133.9 | 67 |
| 0.180 | 127.5 | 63 |
| 0.230 | 126.3 | 63 |
| 0.280 | 123.8 | 61 |
| 0.330 | 122.5 | 59 |
| 0.380 | 122.1 | 59 |
| 0.430 | 121.4 | 58 |
| 0.480 | 118.0 | 55 |
| 0.530 | 124.9 | 62 |
| 0.580 | 117.2 | 53 |

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Table 7
Knoop Microhardness Traverse and Converted Rockwell Hardness of Sample D from Tank Outside Surface to Tank Inside Surface

| Distance <br> (inch) | HK500 | Converted <br> HRB |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0.000 | Outside Surface |  |
| 0.010 | 121.3 | 58 |
| 0.020 | 130.3 | 65 |
| 0.030 | 123.4 | 60 |
| 0.060 | 126.4 | 63 |
| 0.100 | 126.0 | 63 |
| 0.130 | 120.1 | 57 |
| 0.160 | 122.8 | 60 |
| 0.200 | 125.7 | 63 |
| 0.230 | 121.0 | 58 |
| 0.260 | 126.1 | 63 |
| 0.290 | 121.1 | 58 |
| 0.320 | 125.4 | 62 |
| 0.350 | 128.2 | 64 |
| 0.357 | Inside Surface |  |

Table 8
Knoop Microhardness Traverse and Converted Rockwell Hardness of Sample D from Tank Fracture Edge towards Tank Center

| Distance <br> (inch) | HK500 | Converted <br> HRB |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0.000 | Fracture Edge |  |
| 0.010 | 121.6 | 59 |
| 0.020 | 127.3 | 63 |
| 0.030 | 132.9 | 66 |
| 0.080 | 142.8 | 71 |
| 0.114 | 141.9 | 71 |
| 0.164 | 133.9 | 67 |
| 0.214 | 132.0 | 66 |
| 0.264 | 124.8 | 62 |
| 0.314 | 125.9 | 63 |
| 0.364 | 125.2 | 62 |
| 0.414 | 126.1 | 63 |
| 0.464 | 129.0 | 64 |
| 0.514 | 126.7 | 63 |
| 0.564 | 127.5 | 64 |
| 0.614 | 130.9 | 65 |
| 0.654 | 125.6 | 63 |

## ATTACHMENT 11

## Tensile and Compression Testing



## Test Summary

Counter:
Elapsed Time: 00:01:05
Anamet Job
Number: 5004.7104
Specimen
Identification: 1
Operator: eaf/bck
Commpression Lenght
Comments: 1.503"
Procedure Name: Compression Load
Start Date: $\quad 3 / 14 / 2012$
Start Time: $\quad$ 10:37:20 AM
End Date: $\quad 3 / 14 / 2012$
End Time: 10:38:25 AM
Workstation: MECH
Tested By: Brian
Customer: RTI

## Test Results

Load at Peak Load:
10010.1900 lbf

Position at Peak Load: 0.2137 in
Halt of Force Yield: $\quad 10010.1900 \mathrm{lbf}$
Width:
0.5000 in

Length: (Thickness)
0.3480 in

Area:
$0.1740 \mathrm{in}^{2}$

Anamet, inc materrals Engineering a Laboratory Testing
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Table 1
Results of Tensile Test on a Specimen from the SCUBA Tank

| Property |  | Tank |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dimensions of Specimen | Width | 0.509 | inch |
|  | Thickness | 0.381 | inch |
| Area |  | 0.194 | inch $^{2}$ |
| Tensile Load |  | 9965 | lbs |
| Tensile Strength |  | 51400 | psi |
| Yield Load 0.2\% Offset |  | 8937 | lbs |
| Yield Strength 0.2\% Offset |  | 46100 | psi |
| Specimen Length | After |  | inch |
|  | Before | 5.187 | inch |
| Elongation |  | 0.30 | inch |
| Elongation in 2.0" Gage |  | 15 | \% |



## Test Summary

Counter:
Elapsed Time: 00:03:15
Anamet Job Number: 5004.7109
Specimen Identification: 1
Operator:
Procedure Name:
Start Date:
Start Time:
End Date:
End Time:
Workstation:
Tested By:
Customer:
Comments:

MECH

## Brian

RTI
eaf/bck
Tensile 2in. Ext.
3/14/2012
10:16:20 AM
3/14/2012
10:19:35 AM

Comments:

Test Results
Tensile Strength:
51392.4700 psi

Peak Load:
Young's Modulus:
Area:
9965.0000 lbf
$8.07 \mathrm{e}+006 \mathrm{psi}$
Stress at Break:
Load at Break:
Halt of Force Yield:
Load at Offset:
Stress at Offset:
Width:
Thickness:

## ATTACHMENT 12

Scanning Electron Microscope Images<br>SEM images, in order of appearance

Pressure Regulator Adaptor 1 - 150x
Pressure Regulator Adaptor Air Cup 2-100x
Pressure Regulator Adaptor 1-25x
Pressure Regulator Adaptor 2 - 500x
Pressure Regulator Adaptor 3-27x
Pressure Regulator Adaptor 4 - 500x
Pressure Regulator Adaptor 5-27x
Pressure Regulator Adaptor 6-500x
Pressure Regulator Adaptor 7-27x
Pressure Regulator Adaptor 8 - 500x

Cylinder Inside Surface A 1-40x
Valve Seat Body Exemplar 1 - 14x
Valve Seat Body Exemplar 2 - 14x
Valve Seat Body Subject 1 - 14x
Valve Seat Body Subject 2 - 14x
Valve Stem 1-40x
Valve Stem 2-40x
Valve Stem 3 - 40x
Valve Stem 4-40x
Valve Stem 5-40x
Valve Stem 6-500x
Valve Stem 7-1000x
Valve Stem 8-500x
















$20.0 \mathrm{kV} 10.4 \mathrm{~mm} \times 40 \mathrm{SE}$
1.00 mm


$20.0 \mathrm{kV} 10.5 \mathrm{~mm} \times 1.00 \mathrm{k} \mathrm{SE}$


## ATTACHMENT 13

## Inspection Photos of Jun. 8, 2012

## Images of interior surface combustion area















## ATTACHMENT 14

## Surface Curvature Measurements



# ATTACHMENT 15 

## Cylinder Valve Markings



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# ATTACHMENT 16 

## Chain of Custody

## CHANGE OF EVIDENCE CUSTODY RECORD

DATE: $\quad$ November 22, 2011

RTI File Name: DOT - Ruptured Scuba Cylinder

RTI File No.: 50151.ME002
The evidence herein described has been transierred on this date

| To: Richard Loucks, PhD, PE <br> Company: RTI Group, LLC | From: U.S. Dept of Transportation Property Inventory Report <br> Company: |
| :---: | :---: |
| Description of Evidence (Note all markings): |  |
| 1. SEE ATTACHED LIST. |  |
| Authorization of Sending Party: | Authorization of Receiving Party: |
| (Signature \& Date) | (Signature \& Date ) |
| (Printed) | (Printed) <br> Richard B. Loucks, PhD, PE |

Matter: 50151ME002

Matter Name: DOT - Ruptured SCUBA Cylinder

Evidence Inventory

1) Yellow high pressure gas cylinder, Part 1

Smaller fragment from the cylinder, approximately 12 inch by 6 inch. Has the following marks at near the neck:

DOT-3AL 3000 HY-MARK

Cylinder has two decals
Decal 1: OXYGEN for decompression use only - MOD (Maximum Operating Depth) 20 FSW (20 feet submerged water), MOD 6 MSW ( 6 meters submerged water), International Association of Nitrox \& Technical Divers, Inc.

Decal 2: "Tank \& Valve Have Been Cleaned For Premix, Oxygen Content 22 to $40 \%$ " is not punched out.
"Tank \& Valve Have Been Cleaned In Accordance With $\mathrm{O}_{2}$ Service" Is punched out at 2011. The month is uncertain.
2) Yellow high pressure gas cylinder, Part 2

Larger section, contains the bottom, neck and valve opening, measures about 24 inches by 14 inches. Has the following markings near the neck:

OU 0001 M5442 1007 S40 TC-3AL 207
3) High Pressure Tank Valve, DIN Valve, manufactured by Genesis. 5000 psi, $30 \mathrm{lb} / \mathrm{hr}$ CG-1 type rupture disk. Oxygen (Fire Toxicity State and Corrosiveness FTSC Code 4160: 4 -highly oxidizing, 1-nontoxic, 6nonliquified gas between 500 and 3000 psig, 0 -noncorrosive, Class 2 Division 2.2 gas) use permits CG-1 (required in one end of the cylinder, regardless of length). A pressure regulator adaptor is present in the opening which has a fractured outlet. The metal particle filter is evident in the opening.
3) Regulator by Dive Rite, serial number 12008135 , fitted with regulator fitting. The opening is occupied by the fractured end of the pressure regulator adaptor

Attached:

1. Black pressure line with dial gage on high pressure side of regulator. Dial gage face is heat affected and the gage is illegible.
2. Length of green pressure line stating "WARNING Do not exceed 250 psi ( 17 bar ) high pressure may cause damage or personal injury" no manufacturer identified. Distal end terminates unattached. Low pressure side
KEEP WITH PROPERTY

## Anamet,inc

## EVIDENCE CHANGE OF CUSTODY RECORD

Date Received/Shipped/Transferred:


Anamet, Inc. File No: 5004,7532

The evidence herein described has been transferred on this date to:


Description of Evidence:


Date: $7 / 9 / 12$

RTI Group, LLC
910 Bestgate Road, Suite E
Annapolis, MD 21401
ofc: +1 4105710712 | fax: +1 4105710713
www.rtiForensics.com

## CHANGE OF CUSTODY RECORD

| DATE: <br> RTI File Name: <br> RTI File No.: | TBD <br> DOT - Ruptured Scuba Cylinder |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | 50151.ME002 |  |  |
| The evidence herein described has been transferred on this date - - |  |  |  |
| To: TBD <br> Company: U.S. Department of <br> Transportation <br> Pipeline and Hazardous <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br> Materials Safety Admin. <br> Room E21-338 <br> Washington, DC 20590 |  | From: <br> Company: | Richard B. Loucks, PhD, PE <br> RTI Group, LLC <br> 910 Bestgate Rd., Suite E Annapolis, MD 21401 |
| Description of Evidence (Note all markings): |  |  |  |
| 1. See attached description of evidence listing. |  |  |  |
| 2. |  |  |  |
| 3. |  |  |  |
| 4. |  |  |  |
| 5. |  |  |  |
| 6. |  |  |  |
| Authorization: |  |  |  |
| Authorization of Sending Party: |  | Authorization of Receiving Party: |  |
| (Signature) |  | (Signature) |  |
| (Printed: name, company, address) <br> Richard B. Loucks, PhD, PE <br> RTI Group, LLC <br> 910 Bestgate Rd., Suite E <br> Annapolis, MD 21401 |  | (Printed: name, company, address) |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

RTI File Name: DOT-Ruptured Scuba Cylinder
RTI File No.: 50151.ME002

Description of Evidence Listing
Date

| Contained in | Further contained in | Further contained in | Item | Part No. | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bag "Tank Mounts A,B,C,D" |  |  | Sample A | 1-a-i | Hardness tested sample |
|  |  |  | Sample B | 1-b-i | Hardness tested sample |
|  |  |  | Sample C | 1-c-i | Hardness tested sample |
|  |  |  | Sample D | 1-d-i | Hardness tested sample |
| Tupperware container 1 |  |  | Fragment of the Scuba Tank | 2 | Approx. 6"x12". Two Decals. |
| Bag 2 | Bag "Subject Valve - Relief Valve" |  | Relief Valve | 3-a | Intact 5000psi burst disk in a hollow threaded bolt |
|  | Bag "Subject Valve - Vave Seat Body" |  | Valve Seat Body | 3-b | Threads coated green. Rectangular hollow. |
|  | Bag "Subject Valve - Gand Nut" |  | Gland Nut | 3-c | Threaded, hex head. |
|  |  |  | O Ring | 3-c-i | Back polymer, approx 1/2" diameter |
|  | Bag "Subject Valve - Valve Stem" |  | Valve Stem | 3-d | Steel stem, approx $11 / 8$ " in length |
|  |  |  | O Ring | 3-d-i | Brown Polymer, approx 3/8" diameter |
|  |  |  | O Ring | 3-d-ii | Brown Polymer, approx 3/8" diameter |
|  |  |  | Washer | 3-d-iii | White Polymer, approx 3/8" diameter |
|  |  |  | Washer | 3-d-iv | Brown Polymer, approx 1/2" diameter |
|  | Bag "Subject Valve - Regulator Adapter" |  | Air Cup | 3-f | Brass cup, approx $3 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ diameter $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ tall |
|  |  |  | Handle | 3-e-viii | Matte black, approx $13 / 4{ }^{\text {" }}$ diameter |
|  |  |  | Adjuster | 3-e | Black. Hollow. Threaded inside. Hex head. |
|  |  |  | Adjuster Adapter | 3-e-iv | Black. Hollow. Threaded outisde. Hex opening. Fractured |
|  |  |  | O Ring | $3-\mathrm{e}-\mathrm{v}$ | Black polymer, approx 3/4" diameter |
|  |  |  | O Ring | 3-e-vi | Black polymer, approx $1 / 2$ " diameter |
|  |  |  | O Ring | 3-e-vii | Black polymer, approx 3/8" diameter |
| Tupperware container 3 | Bag 3-A |  | Pressure line | 4-i | Green. Some yellow discoloration |
|  | Bag 3-B |  | Regulator Handle | 4-j | Black polymer, fire damaged |
|  | Bag 3-C |  | Pressure Gauge | 4-k | Atteched to an approx 6" black hose |
|  | Bag "Regulator Body" | Bag "O Ring, Thrust Washer" | O Ring | 4-g | Black polymer, approx 1" diameter |
|  |  |  | Thrust Washer | 4-h | White Polymer, approx 1" diameter |
|  |  | Bag "Metal Diaphragm Retainer, Main Regulator Body, Valve Lifter" | Diaphragm Retainer | 4-c-v | Metal, $15 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ diameter approx 3/4" tall |
|  |  |  | Regulator Body | 4 | Metal, $15 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ diameter approx $11 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ tall |
|  |  |  | Valve Lifter | 4-a | Resembes a large thumbtack |
|  |  | Bag "Turret" | Turret | 4-b | Metal, $15 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ diameter approx 1" tall |
|  |  |  | Gasket | 4-b-i | Brown Polymer, approx 1 5/8" diameter |
|  |  |  | O Ring | 4-b-ii | Black polymer, approx 1 1/4" diameter |
|  |  | Bag "High Pressure Diaphragm Spring, Adjustment Sleeve" | Diaphragm Spring | 4-c-iii | approx $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ diameter, $3 / 4^{\prime \prime}$ tall, 5 turns |
|  |  |  | Adjustment Sleeve | 4-c-iv | approx $3 / 4^{\prime \prime}$ diameter, $3 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ tall, outside threaded |
|  |  | Bag "Diaphragm, Retaining Ring, Spring Carrier" | Diaphragm | 4-c | Grey Polymer approx 1 1/2" diameter |
|  |  |  | Retaining Ring | 4-c-i | Cllear Polymer Ring approx $11 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ diameter |
|  |  |  | Spring Carrier | 4-c-ii | Metallic button, approx 3/4" diameter. Center portion raised |
|  |  | Bag "Mating Half Regulator Adjuster Adapter" | Adjuster | 3-e-i | Remaining part of the adjuster |
|  |  |  | O Ring | 3-e-ii | Black Polyer approx 3/8" diameter |
|  |  | Bag "Regulator Insert Low Pressure" | Regulator Insert | 4-f | Piston Body with compression spring |
|  |  |  | O Ring | 4-f-i | Black Polymer approx $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ diameter |
| Bag 4 | Bag 4-1 |  | Tank Section | 1-e | approx 2" in ength and $1 / 4$ " width |
|  |  |  | Tank Section | 1-f | approx $11 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ in length triangular section |
|  | Bag 4-2 |  | Tank Section | 1-g | Main body approx $1^{\prime \prime}$ length and 1/2" width |
|  | Bag 4-3 |  | Tank Section | 1-h | Triangular section approx $3 / 4$ " height |
|  | Bag 4-4 |  | Tank Section | 1-c-ii | Approx $11 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ length and 3/4" width. Marked C |
|  |  |  | Tank Section | 1-c-iii | Approx $11 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ length and $1 / 4$ " width. Marked C |
|  | Bag 4-5 |  | Tank Section | 1-i | Approx 3" length, $1^{\prime \prime}$ at one end and $11 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ at another |
|  | Bag "Compression Specimen" |  | Tank Section | 1-j | Approx $11 / 4$ " length and $5 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ width |
|  | Bag 4-6 |  | Tank Section | 1-d-ii | Curved section of the tank. Marked D |
|  | Bag 4-7 |  | Tank Section | 1-c-iv | Main body approx $41 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 6{ }^{\text {" }}$. Marked C |
|  | Bag 4-8 |  | Tank Section | 1-k | Main body approx $8^{\prime \prime}$ length |
| Tupperware container 5 |  |  | Tank Valve | 3 | Tank valve body. Fracturerd |
| Not Bagged |  |  | Scuba Cylinder | 1 | Ruptured. Specimens taken. |
| Bag 6 |  |  | Tank Bottom | 1-1 | Bottom of the ruptured tank. |
| Bag "Tensile Specimens" | Envelope "Tensile Specimen A Fracture Surface" |  | Tank Section | 1-m-ii | Part of the fractured specimen No. 1-m-i |
|  | Envelope "Tensile" |  | Tank Section | 1-m-i | Tensile testing specimen half |
|  |  |  | Tank Section | 1-m-iii | Tensile testing specimen half. Marked B. |

PTI Goup, ELC

## CHANGE OF CUSTODY RECORD




[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Nitrogen-oxygen (NITROX) diving is a unique type of diving using nitrogen-oxygen breathing gas mixtures ranging from 75 percent nitrogen/ 25 percent oxygen to 60 percent nitrogen/40 percent oxygen. U.S. Navy Diving Manual, Chapter 10.

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ http://www.iantd.com/decals.html , D-3207. The web page does state that "These decals are available ONLY to Blenders or Facilities with Certified Blenders on staff."

[^2]:    ${ }^{3}$ Handbook of Compressed Gases, Chapter 4.
    ${ }^{4} 49$ CFR 178.46(a).
    ${ }_{6}^{5} \mathrm{http}: / / \mathrm{www}$.worthingtonindustries.com/
    ${ }^{6}$ Maximum Oxygen Depth-MOD, Feet Submerged Water-FSW, Meters Submerged Water-MSD.

[^3]:    ${ }^{7}$ Introduction to Aluminum Alloys and Tempers, Kaufman, G.J., ASM International, Materials Park, 2000.

[^4]:    8 "Copper-Aluminum Interaction in Fire Environments", B. Beland, C. Roy, and M. Tremblay, Fire Technology, Vol. 19, Number 1, 1983, page 20.

[^5]:    ${ }^{9}$ The CG-1 burst disk is rated at $32.6 \mathrm{MPa} \pm 10 \%$ ( $5000 \mathrm{psi} \pm 10 \%$ ), 38 MPa is the upper range of possible activation of the relief.

[^6]:    ${ }^{10}$ ASTM G $94-92$, and Advanced Thermodynamics for Engineers, §1-7-1 Charging and Discharging Rigid Vessels.

[^7]:    ${ }^{11} 49$ CFR 172.407 provides the specifications for the label, $\S 172.426$ demands that an oxidizer have specific wording and Division for an oxidizer, and $\S 172.405$ modifies the oxidizer label to configure specifically to compressed oxygen gas.

[^8]:    ${ }^{12}$ Handbook of Compressed Gases, page 205 under section "Pressurization".

[^9]:    ${ }^{13} 49$ CFR $178.46(\mathrm{~g})(3)$ (iii) Five-thirds times the service pressure for cylinders having a service pressure of at least 500 psig . The incident cylinder was rated for $3,000 \mathrm{psi}$ service pressure.

[^10]:    Hayward. CA 94545 Anamet, Inc.
    26102 Eden Landing Road

[^11]:    Hayward, CA 94545 Anamet, inc.

[^12]:    Stst6 $\forall D$ 'psemker Anamet, Inc.
    26102 Eden Landing Road

[^13]:    Hayward, CA 94545 Anamet, Inc.
    26102 Eden Landing Road

[^14]:    Hayward, CA 94545

[^15]:    StSt6 $\forall$ 'prem

