

The Ocean Corporation

New at TOC: Ultimate Diver Training



The Ocean Corporation (TOC) is among the largest commercial diver training organizations in the world, providing the commercial diving industry with about one-third of all entry-level divers. The school is located in Houston, Texas, the commercial diving, offshore construction and oil industry capital of the world.

Says CEO Les Joiner, "Placement of our graduates is still Job One at The Ocean Corporation. The student's future is our first priority. So we constantly tap industry leaders for their input on the latest skills and knowledge required by cutting-edge commercial diving companies. We're proud of our 28-year track record of being first to respond to the industry's needs. We recently expanded our core curriculum. It's now called 'Ultimate Diver Training' (UDT). We added courses in 'HazWOpER' (Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response) and Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROVs). Ultimate Diver Training combines what we've taught for years with some new skills that are rapidly becoming industry standards."

Ultimate Diver Training is the cornerstone at TOC. It is the main, full-time course for commercial diver certi-

fication. The diving program includes advanced scuba, commercial air and mixed-gas. UDT also teaches skills in non-destructive testing, topside and underwater welding and cutting, and diving in nuclear and contaminated water and from lock-out bells. The course includes the Offshore Safety and Survival Seminar, which is unique to TOC; graduates have this required certification before they start with an employer. UDT graduates are qualified and certified to go directly to work in any area of the commercial inland and offshore oil industry. Joiner adds, "We have the least expensive complete diver training course."

TOC graduates may be required to work anywhere there is water. Divers do everything from golf-ball recovery to oilfield work, to heavy construction on dams, bridges and in harbors. Any well-rounded education should include training in every type of equipment and all kinds of conditions. Says Joiner, "Diving is an exciting field where you are rated for your ability. The more you know and can do, the higher and faster you go. Our training offers our graduates several career paths."

At the Ocean Corporation, the

equipment is as diverse as the curriculum. In addition to open-water training, TOC students receive instruction in six tanks. Windows and communication systems allow feedback from instructors outside. Joiner says, "The tanks are a positive factor. We can observe trainees and correct bad diving or work patterns before they become habits." Underwater welding and cutting are taught in two tanks; rigging to lift heavy weights in another. TOC emphasizes oil industry training. Installed in a major tank are life-sized replicas of offshore oil riser sections, pipe repair clamps and rigging projects. Students learn how to make pipeline penetration dives and to work in confined spaces.

Perhaps the most unique aspect of The Ocean Corporation is job placement assistance. Over the last nine years, TOC has consistently located more job openings than they have graduates to fill them.

For details on programs and financial aid, contact The Ocean Corporation. Phone (800) 321-0298 or (713) 530-0202. World Wide Web: <http://ocorp.com>

— Text by Rob Curran

