AAUS and OSHA Collaboration Goals

Current Scope:

AAUS is recognized as the standard-setting organization for scientific diving best practices.

AAUS Organizational Member activities represent the current scope of scientific diving programs.

Short Term Goals:

1. To strengthen the ongoing relationship between the AAUS and OSHA's Directorate of Enforcement Programs:
    a. AAUS will communicate to OSHA updates on current safety and health practices and procedures in the scientific diving community.
    b. OSHA will communicate to AAUS updates on safety and health practices for commercial diving and other standards or policies that may affect AAUS membership.
2. AAUS will share with OSHA current issues facing the scientific diving community and hold an OSHA Town Hall.
3. Office of Maritime Enforcement Director, Eric Kampert, will participate in an AAUS-OSHA Town Hall to address AAUS membership concerns.
4. OSHA will generally advise AAUS on standards in a non-binding/non-voting capacity.

Long Term Goals:

1. AAUS and OSHA will continue to foster partnerships with other occupational diving sectors.
2. OSHA will participate in AAUS's Annual Symposium.
3. OSHA will update the 2011, Commercial Diving Directive to aid OSHA compliance officers and industry in explanation of the regulatory standards:
    a. Include AAUS Consensus Standards as the Industry Best Practices for Scientific Diving.
    b. Clarify issues identified as "gray areas" within scientific diving/commercial diving.
4. AAUS will develop and share information with OSHA about diving methodologies, modes, and equipment configurations for training purposes.
5. AAUS will ensure member organizations adhere to proper use of the scientific exemption through continuing education and member accreditation.
6. AAUS and international partners will create and adhere to a consensus international standard with OSHA as an advising partner.

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James Hayward
President, American Academy of Underwater Sciences

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Eric Kampert
Director, Office of Maritime Enforcement