Inspectorate for Diving Equipment Servicing and Testing

IDEST

Tel: 01325 23825 Accredited ISO/IEC 17024:2012

Technical Information

CALIBRATION CERTIFICATES Guidance on understanding Calibration Certificates

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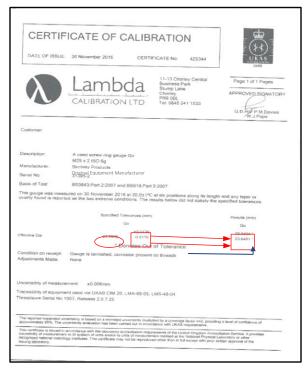
Many centre technicians have confessed to not really understanding the information on their calibration certificates. This has become clear because they have continued to use thread gauges that are shown to be 'out of tolerance' on the respective calibration certificate.

So how do you interpret the information shown. (See example below)

- Check the that your company is listed as the 'owner' of the thread gauge.
- Check that the thread gauge listed has the correct serial number or ID.
- Double check that this identification is etched or engraved on the gauge and not just a sticky label that could come off.
- Any gauge that does not have the identification etched or engraved onto its surface cannot be traced and so is invalid. The gauge and calibration certificate must match up for traceability.
- Check that the calibration date is correct and within the limits set by IDEST
- Check the acceptable limits for that gauge.
- Calculate the actual size if given the upper and lower tolerances and

check that they fall within the acceptable tolerances.

- See whether there is an asterix, star or other mark after the size measured. If there is, a footnote will explain that this gauge is 'out of tolerance' and should therefore NOT BE USED to check diving and breathing apparatus cylinder/valve threads.
- A REPLACEMENT NEEDS
 TO BE PURCHASED from a thread gauge
 manufacturer.
- If you are ever in doubt about the information, contact the calibration laboratory.
- Ignorance is not an excuse for poor engineering practice.



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