



Caring for your immersion suit

How to take care of your immersion suit

Follow manufacturer's maintenance and cleaning instructions and regularly inspect your immersion suit to make sure it is in good working condition:

- Examine the suit for leaks, rips, tears, and deterioration, and inspect the seals. Repairs should be made by the manufacturer or someone competent in immersion suit repairs.
- Make sure the zipper works smoothly. Check that the teeth are aligned. Wax the front and back of the zipper with beeswax or paraffin wax. Do not use a petroleum-based product, which can break down the fabric, allowing water to enter.
- If your suit has a head support, at least once a year blow up the head support to make sure it inflates fully and remains inflated for 24 hours. This head support will keep your shoulders and head out of water.
- Check that the reflective tape is in place.
- Check that the whistle works.
- Check that the light is attached and that the battery is not past the manufacturer's expiry date. The light is activated by salt water.



Sample immersion suit

A damaged or poorly maintained immersion suit does not meet a standard acceptable to WorkSafeBC.

How to store your immersion suit

- If your suit has been immersed in salt water, thoroughly rinse it with fresh water and a mild detergent (no bleach) and dry it before storing it.
- Hang, roll, or fold it up according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Store your suit in a cool, dry place where it is out of direct sunlight and easy to get if you must abandon ship.



Do not dry your immersion suit in direct sunlight because it can damage the fabric. Consider putting a toggle on the zipper tab of your immersion suit for quick donning.

For more information go to WorkSafeBC.com, OHS Regulation Parts 8 and 24.