

Submarine Cofferdam Vacuum Test Assembly

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REQUIREMENT

- NATO Standard ANEP-85 MATERIAL INTEROPERABILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBMARINE ESCAPE AND RESCUE, requires that "If a rescue seat pressure boundary exists with free flood penetrators, a vacuum test shall be performed on the Rescue Pressure Boundary (or cofferdam)."
- NATO Standard ANEP-85.1 MATERIAL
 INTEROPERABILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR
 SUBMARINE ESCAPE AND RESCUE: RESCUE
 SEAT EVALUATION PROCESS, describes the test as
 "Perform Rescue Pressure Boundary (or cofferdam)
 vacuum test in accordance with national standards. As
 a recommendation for the submarine nations without
 vacuum test standards, 100 millibars for 10 minutes with
 no leakage."

SOLUTION



A portable apparatus to enable a submarine operator to perform a vacuum test of the rescue seat cofferdam cavity. Comprising:

- Aluminium alloy head with flange and lip seal (blank) that rests on top of the rescue seat.
- Vacuum pump with gauge, hose and fittings to draw a vacuum within the sealed cavity.
- Storage and transit case for portability and protection.



Manual Handling

SPECIFICATION

Weight	50 - 60kg
Dimensions	1300mm diameter, 300mm height
Operating Pressure	-100 millibars (-1 barg)
Operating Temperature	2°C - 40°C
Head Material	Aluminium alloy 5074
Surface Finish	Black anodised
Design Code(s)	PD5500:2024 - Specification for Unfired Pressure Vessels



Storage and Transit Solution

BENEFITS

- Proven: this solution has been manufactured and is in operational use.
- **Simple:** designed for ease of use and maintenance, with simple assembly and commercially available components
- Durable: blank supplied with hard anodised coating, all components manufactured from corrosion resistant materials.
- Portable: light weight blank designed for manual handling or crane lift, detachable vacuum pump and controls.
- Safe: designed for safe operation and use.
- Compliant: meets the requirement for vacuum test as defined in ANEP 85.1.