

STIDD Diver Propulsion Device (DPD) Question and Answer Session STIDD Systems, Inc.

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What is STIDD's relationship or background with the Special Operations Forces (SOF) community?

In 2000 USSOCOM issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a new Diver Propulsion Vehicle (DPV). STIDD responded to the RFP with the Diver Propulsion Device (DPD), which included an innovative collapsible hull design reducing stowed volume to a fraction of any other Diver Propulsion Vehicle (DPV). The Diver Propulsion Device (DPD) met all Naval Special Warfare (NSW) requirements and technical specifications, and STIDD was subsequently awarded a production contract. Since then, in addition to the Navy SEALs, the US Marine Corps Special Operations Units and Army Special Forces have adopted the Diver Propulsion Device (DPD) in large quantities as their exclusive combat diving vehicle.



Diver Propulsion Device (DPD): SOF Choice For Combat Divers

What is today's Special Operations Forces (SOF) customer asking for?

All of the Special Operations Forces (SOF) end users who use the Diver Propulsion Device (DPD), currently nearly two dozen International Special Operations Forces (SOF) units in addition to US SOF, want a proven, reliable, and safe product which gives them all of the critical performance specifications to include speed, range, operating depth, payload, and navigation essential to the conduct of maritime infil/exfil missions. We understand that, and have developed the Diver Propulsion Device (DPD) and modified it when required to ensure it would perform when needed. As a result the Diver Propulsion Device (DPD) has exceeded customer expectations during use in successful military operations around the world.

Aren't there a number of other products on the market comparable to the Diver Propulsion Device (DPD)?

No. The Diver Propulsion Vehicle (DPV) market is full of recreational, luxury toy type scooter products that aren't optimized, nor certified for military applications. When STIDD developed the Diver Propulsion Device (DPD) for Special Operations Forces (SOF), in addition to ruggedizing the unit with hard coat anodized marine grade aluminum, we included an interior payload capability, an operating depth of over 80 meters, and a high accuracy onboard mission planning and submerged navigation system RNAV (Recon-Navigation). Additionally, during the USSOCOM directed test and evaluation process, the Diver Propulsion Device (DPD) received an Approved for Navy Use (ANU) listing and had its Lithium-cobalt 300ah battery certified "Sub-Safe" by the US Navy. No other Diver Propulsion Vehicle (DPV)'s in the market have both the Diver Propulsion Device (DPD)'s Special Operations Forces (SOF) based specifications, and the Lithium battery certifications that ensure safety during both operation and transport aboard Navy ships

How about overall Diver Propulsion Device (DPD) performance characteristics?

The Diver Propulsion Device (DPD) is propelled by an Infinitely Variable Speed 26V DC electric thruster which enables the Diver Propulsion Device (DPD), when fully loaded with two Combat Divers, their equipment and an additional 50kg of available payload, to travel farther and faster than any other Diver Propulsion Vehicle (DPV) available. With proper hydrographic mission planning enabled by the onboard RNAV system, the Diver Propulsion Device (DPD) can operate fully loaded anywhere in the world.

Diver Propulsion Device (DPD) Training

What type of maintenance support and training do you offer?

Due to design considerations and material selection, the Diver Propulsion Device (DPD) is virtually maintenance free. After an operation all that is required is a fresh water rinse and battery recharging. Our field technicians and trainers are all former Special Operations Forces (SOF) personnel who have decades of experience with Diver Propulsion Vehicle (DPV)s. They provide not only routine maintenance and training visits to end users around the world, but also conduct in-water Diver Propulsion Device (DPD) demonstrations and new user training at the STIDD Submersible Test and Evaluation Facility located near Key West, Florida. Over the years STIDD has developed a hard earned reputation as an extremely responsive, customer support focused company. In large part this is due to our team of highly experienced Submersible Engineers and Program Managers, located at STIDD Headquarters in Greenport, New York. This team manages all Diver Propulsion Device (DPD) related issues to include engineering change proposals, product delivery, and Export Compliance with the ultimate goal of ensuring every customer is satisfied.



Are there any new technologies you are working on?

Yes. We recently fielded the Recon-Navigation (RNAV) for the Diver Propulsion Device (DPD). We designed and developed the Recon-Navigation (RNAV) to address Special Operations Forces (SOF) user's requirements for submerged navigation. The Recon-Navigation (RNAV) transforms a standard Diver Propulsion Device (DPD) into the functional equivalent of a two-man one-quarter Swimmer Delivery Vehicle (SDV) at a small fraction of the price and maintenance cost.

The Recon-Navigation (RNAV) can upload mission planning data from a laptop or download completed mission tracks to a laptop via its remote memory card reader. Mission planning data is displayed on a high-visibility moving map display and can be easily modified enroute through a gloved-hand pushbutton interface. The Recon-Navigation (RNAV)'s real-time position information, bottom contour tracking, leg and mission timers all assist in ensuring extremely accurate submerged navigation. The addition of a Doppler Velocity Log (DVL) has made the STIDD Recon-Navigation (RNAV) the most capable Diver Propulsion Vehicle (DPV) navigation system available



STIDD Systems, Inc.
220 Carpenter Street
Greenport, NY 11944 USA

POC:
David Wilberding, VP Sales
STIDD Systems, Inc.
o: 631-477-2400 ext: 158
f: 631-477-1095
c: 202-904-4461
dwilberding@stidd.com
www.stiddmil.com