

[Ratio Deco Discredited or Disowned? AG Kicked out of GUE](http://www.finsonline.com/forum/archive/index.php/t-3786.html)

<http://www.finsonline.com/forum/archive/index.php/t-3786.html>

gxdoyle

09-07-2005, 10:10 AM

From reading many of the DIR lists, it seems that GUE has abandoned the teaching of 'Ratio Decompression' as being a heresy developed by former training director Andrew Georgitsis who has had his membership of GUE revoked.

According to the discussions on the lists, including posts by Panos, George Irvine and Jarod Jablonski himself, many other things being taught were also non-DIR.

Does anybody have any insights into what the alternative DIR deco approach is if it is no longer ratio deco?

I am curious as I want to understand the validity of deco methods being used by divers on MV Grace and whether there are any impacts on insurance coverage.

Albion

09-16-2005, 09:15 PM

Please let it be true :)

thomssi

09-16-2005, 11:39 PM

Would look like it. Apparently he is now with Naui - looks like he pissed George Irvine off by making new scooters as well (which interestingly our local GUE dive shop has/had on their site).

<http://tiswango.com/ipw-web/b2/index.php?p=131&pb=1>

and (from google groups)

Dear GUE Members,

Please be advised that in May of 2005 a complaint was lodged against Andrew Georgitsis claiming unprofessional conduct. Following a three month discovery process, GUE's Quality Control Board unanimously determined that there was sufficient reason to conclude that Andrew Georgitsis' conduct was often unprofessional and did not promote the best interests of GUE. As a result, the five members of this Board unanimously voted that his GUE membership not be renewed. As a result Andrew Georgitsis will no longer be sanctioned to teach GUE classes.

It is important to underscore that issues here did not orbit student safety, as Andrew Georgitsis would have been removed immediately, but rather a systematic attempt on Andrew Georgitsis' part to suborn the authority and efforts of GUE's administration coupled with public, derogatory and profane remarks about GUE members, GUE instructors, former students, and senior members of GUE in public venues (including instructional settings).

Sincerely yours,

PDA

Dr. Panos D. Alexakos
Vice-President and Director of Quality Control
Global Underwater Explorers

DrMike

09-17-2005, 08:32 AM

Anyone see "Lord of the Flies" last week on TV?

From: George Irvine

To: gavinscooters@yahoogroups.com

Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2005 8:47 PM

Subject: RE: [gavinscooters] George, would you care to comment please?

Sure, this is what I sent to Pete: (feel free to forward this to any other lists involved).

Pete, this sounds like an Andrew problem, and it needs to come out. JJ needs to hear from you about this, as well as from anyone else who is protecting this guy's mistakes while getting injured, bent or involved in some CF.

The argon mounting problem is clearly an Andrew - the argon needs to be done the way I have always said it needs to be done, and this is a great example of one of the reasons why that Andrew just does not get in his zeal to look cool and be slick ? it is not slick when your wings trap the bottle. With my method, the bottle merely moves away from the wing as it inflates. He does not understand any of this. In reality, the guy is teaching people to sacrifice function and safety for some nonsensical vision of ?slickness? that he thinks makes a diver, and doing so behind JJ's back. Again, you people need to stop protecting this guy.

His little 20 minute teaching dives (all he has ever done in his life) are no basis to be recommending anything to anyone, especially when is it contrary to what people like me are recommending based on thousands of dives and real ?been there done that? reasons for why we do what we do. The guy should have done what we told him. He did not, so we are going to have to correct all the damage done.

The problem is that this guy does nothing unless it is motivated by money ? all his BS gadgetry and shameless recommendations of sheer garbage are examples of this, like the ridiculous dry suit thing and the list of ?accessories? that are too stupid to mention, the wrist dumps (LOL), the ?X? crap, etc. Nick Toussaint put something out with this list of garbage gear and faulty techniques on the scooter list that is beyond funny on the one hand, and a really sad example of somebody using a good thing like GUE to con people and line his pockets, while trying to boost his own fragile little ego that is not deserved by any accomplishment in diving. Again, stop protecting this guy. He is a con. He is somehow convincing you that he is right and JJ and I are wrong. Wise up ? his ways don't work. I should pass over some of Nick's and other people posts about this guy to the public lists so

that you can see that anyone who really plays this game is totally at odds with Andrew and his gang of nouveau savants.

The lp inflator hose needs to be long enough to work with - not the super short hose to look ? slick?. The corrugated inflator hose needs to be long enough to work with. The post turning is not going to solve the problem you had. The inflator needs to be controlled as you said, and then if there is an ongoing reg failure, turn off the post, but deal with the immediate problem instantly the right way. If you are using any kind of normal second stage on the reg with the inflator, the second stage should act as an OPV. This whole valve fetish of Andrew?s has really gotten annoying. In fact, all of his little drills are a joke when the students can not function in real life. Besides, when he teaches people to operate the dry suit improperly in the first place, the valve thing becomes dangerous. For instance, with the shrink wrap Andrew dry suit (again, his misguided idea of ?slickness?), you not only are at huge risk if you drop ahead of the suit (I found a body on the ocean floor where the suit was so tight that the person was frozen in the position he fell in ? could obviously not move), but you are constantly injuring yourself with the pinching suit and cutting off circulation, not to mention making the operation of your gear difficult and killing the thermal properties of the insulation. Just plain stupid, like everything else this guy does - all to ?look slick? - all with ZERO upside, endless downside.

I don?t know what kind of inflator you are using, but you should be using something that has a slow fill rate, and again this is an example of why I have recommended this all along. With a properly balanced rig, buoyancy compensation becomes a piece of cake, and the correct way to dive is to anticipate buoyancy needs before they become critical.

When something like this happens, when you are forced to the surface or need to deal with an emergency, you need to go back down and do the deco. The boat should send a safety diver with you and everyone needs to be alerted to the fact that there could be a problem. These dives need to be organized so that everyone is on the same page and schedule. It goes without saying - don?t cut the light unless you have to for shark reasons, stay with your buddy and face each other - all things that have been part of DIR from day one. Don?t ever listen to boat monkeys about bends or anything else.

I also hear that people out there are getting bent due to ?Andrew Deco?. I was telling JJ, I have over the years tried to help this guy, tried to explain these things to him, and it has not worked. His perversion of the deco is hurting people. I did a seminar at Fifth D last year that

he participated in, and he said some things so stupid to the audience that I just shut up and let it go. I told JJ, this guy does not understand any of this and he double talks and bs's his way through it. What I just can not understand is how an audience of divers who come from Seattle and San Fran and are mostly very bright people in the technology business can listen to idiocy and accept it. I have the same level of disbelief with the New York crowd ? all these guys I worked with on Wall Street who hold MBAs from Harvard who listen to boat monkeys and dive instructors and accept things that are clearly nonsense.

Let me also add this : I am not a nice, sweet, loveable guy. I got where I am from being a hard ass. I don't care if anyone likes me, I never cared in WKPP, I never cared on Wall Street, and I certainly don't care in the companies I own. I do not need to con anyone about anything.

Unfortunately, the good information that I have to offer about diving falls on deaf ears relative to the sugar coated nonsense out of likeable people like Tom Mount and Bret Gilliam, or worse the persuasive coaxing out of a genuinely good con like Andrew. Maybe I should explain things more thoroughly or with more patience. Maybe I should leave it to JJ. In any event, what I never can understand is why intelligent people listen to morons. However, if you read 'The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber' by Earnest Hemingway, you can see an example of the mentality of many divers, and the explanation of why a dive instructor can influence an otherwise intelligent human being into doing stupid things.

Andrew is a charismatic, friendly, personable guy, and as such is more dangerous than a rattlesnake in your sleeping bag. There are too many incidents and accidents happening on this guy's ticket, and he is misrepresenting GUE and DIR to the point where those of us who really have done something and contributed, and do things are being correctly laughed at by the strokes we were trying to offer an alternative to. We need to turn this around. This list is open for serious players, and JJ is opening another forum for serious players. There are now a lot of really skilled people out there - we all need to take up the slack here and compensate for this guy

DrMike

09-17-2005, 08:40 AM

Andrew's Rebuttle to George's Charges

From: Andrew Georgitsis

To: gavinscooters@yahoogroups.com ; Dean Laffan ; Muzafar El-Ariss
Sent: Saturday, February 05, 2005 5:32 AM
Subject: [gavinscooters] Response - please post to Gavin Scooter if I cannot

George

I am disappointed to see that the conflicts in our business interests are causing you to take personal issues with me. I believe this is unfortunate and unworthy of a person of your great reputation. I have always respected you expect for this type of behavior. I would appreciate it if we could keep discussions on these lists to matters of diving and not personal attacks because of business competition.

However I want to answer some of your allegations to set the record straight. It bothers me to see students such as Matt take his entire GUE training process and discount it because of your personal attacks towards me.

Before I go down a point by point response, please realize I am in Australia and in a remote place so Internet connection is hard and I am only able to answer via a cell phone connection. The points I have listed are only points people have relayed to me via phone so I thought I should answer at least a few , logically from my view of this.

WING/DRYSUIT INFLATION

First of all let me say I am truly sorry to hear about Pete?s unfortunate accident. It never good to hear of an accident. As far as the problem occurring, again there are many variables that can be asked but in reality I want to address the direct allegation that I teach the wrong procedures. I don?t. There is no direct answer or standard on what to teach in fact there

are as many opinions as there are real answers on what to do. So in fact I include a few scenarios as opposed to a definite answer or solution to a runaway inflator, but to build the divers awareness of the issues. . As you well know diving is incredible dynamic and for me to teach every scenario is impossible. So I teach divers to start to think.

Now as many people will tell you that it is impossible to disconnect the hose as there are that say they can. In fact many will say (like Ice Divers/Cold water divers) that the hose freezes to nipple. Also with the cold hands they do not have the dexterity to pinch the hose or disconnect. The hands are just too cold to squeeze the hose. The alternative is to shut down the source. This in fact came from you when you were beating on Garrett Weinberg when they claimed it was the drysuit the runaway and he could not disconnect the drysuit hose which was self inflating. (Rust I believe is what they said) You comments were to shut down the source.

So Exactly what I teach (Dean Laffan was just in my class last week and he can explain further) is to

Step 1. Recognize the buoyancy change

Step 2. Disconnect the LP hose from the inflator (pinch it off)

IF you can not

Step 3 shut down the right post (source)

While maintaining your buoyancy

The head down and rear dump comes from cave diving and from the GUE programs which have always promoted the use of the rear dump valve and not the inflator hose as to dump. Using the inflator will require you to drop your feet when dumping. SO we promote the use of the rear dump while maintaining

your trim and feet out of the silt.

WRIST DUMP DRYsuit

In the past I liked the wrist dump and found it very easy and comfortable to dump. You and I have argued about it and I saw you promote the right shoulder dump valve and could not understand why. You talked about it for scootering but I could not see the benefit of having buoyancy on your right (shoulder drysuit dump) and then a different buoyancy on your left (left hand BCD) and certainly could not understand how you would control a toxing diver when the right arm is holding the regulator in the mouth and the left hand is suppose to control buoyancy of both divers, how could your control your own drysuit dumping when the dump was on the arm you were using to maintain the regulator in the toxing divers mouth. I also saw many many images of you diving and never saw it on the right shoulder, It was always on the left and lower than the normal position that I see it on regular DUI suits

JJ and I discussed it and I went to a shoulder dump. Although I asked DUI to put it in the same place as yours (Slightly above the left elbow). This seems to be a good spot as you can see it and it was not on the inside of the shoulder or arm or on the outside on the shoulder where you can not see it or reach it. So I had them put it two inches above the elbow where you can see it. (Faith did it for me) I cannot quote number of images I saw this (your dump valve position) but it is a Wakulla dive and a David Rhea shot. I think the fundy book.

BTW the only reason Christos saw me diving my OLD suit in San Diego is because my DUI was leaking again and was being repaired.

DECOMPRESSION

As far as the Deco goes well here is some fun. We have spoke tons of times together from the Italian show to three talks in the NW and so on where I have always done the deco discussion in your presences and you have never said anything to me on the contrary to the discussion. I always credit you for the knowledge. We have also had dinner several times and discussed it more in depth and again you never ?SET ME STRAIGHT?

I have always tried to teach and understand your method while staying with in the Deco Plan as used and set by GUE. Yours has changed slightly over the years (the 30"/9m 12/40' 15m/50' have got shorter times, different shape) but on the whole it is the same. Mozi (a very analytical person) saved all your profiles and compared them to my Ratio deco rules and found very little discrepancies. I have compared 5 of them below. Mozi will have the dates each were published by you but the most recent is the 200'/60 for 120min.

Now because we GUE don?t use/write tables down or use computer profiles, I have created a set of rules to follow your theory and yet stay well with in Deco Plan. These rules became know as Ratio deco. I also combined your rules for deep stops and so developed a full deco plan that can be done easily and on the fly. Below I have listed out 5 sets of profiles you have published and compared them to both my rules (ratio deco) and to decoplan. As a side note the decoplan is set for 30/85 GF factors.

As you will see very little difference, if anything my rules are more conservative than your profile and decoplan

I have made a comparison of the Deco

[snip]

DRYSUIT SQUEEZED

This again is a misconception. I teach a balanced drysuit. Meaning the amount of gas in the drysuit must fluff the undergarment to full loft providing full insulation properties but one should not over inflate or use the suit for buoyancy or as a BCD. Divers generally put too much gas in the drysuit not realizing that the hydrostatic pressure will put the gas to the highest point and they will still only have the undergarment providing insulation based on the loft.

So this misconception came from the early days when students would on the first dive use the drysuit and overinflate it requiring 16lbs more weight they actually did. (Paul B.) Then I would disconnect the hose not allow them to use it for buoyancy and teach them to use the BCD is 5m/17' until they broke the habit. Then they would be allow to use the drysuit again but only to balance the suit. Never would I want it squeezed or pinched.

CONCLUSION

GUE is still an incredible agency and the best training available in the current market. JJ is still a visionary in what he is creating and doing and I will still support him and GUE. He has being the Training Director for 2 years now and we have taught and co-taught the programs and done several Tech IE's together. He and I discussed tons of these points and more importantly I have taught accordingly to the GUE standards. It saddens me to see you lower this discussion to personal attacks based on business competition. If you want to debate the Scooters then lets have an open discussion about them in a business like manner rather than trench battle with name calling.

Andrew

DrMike

09-17-2005, 08:41 AM

?? Original Message ??

From: George Irvine

To: gavinscooters@yahoogroups.com ; Dean Laffan ; Muzafar El-Ariss

Sent: Saturday, February 05, 2005 10:37 AM

Subject: RE: [gavinscooters] Response - please post to Gavin Scooter if I cannot

Andrew, you have spent the last few years beating your students heads against walls doing stupid things we already long ago discarded as stupid, and then telling them that JJ and I don't know what we are doing. Every time we bust you doing it, you try to weasel out with your double talk and lies.

You have never in your entire life done a real dive, and when you ever tried to do anything approaching a dive, you either had no idea what you were doing, or you just could not do it. You are nothing without JJ, GUE and DIR, yet you chose to screw over JJ, screw over me, lie to both of us, discredit all we have done and worked for that you had absolutely no part of developing, and then infecting students with your nonsense.

You have used us and GUE to promote your own agenda, your own line of ridiculous dive products when you do not even understand how to use the ones that already exist, and now you are trying to tell me about scooters? How much garbage have you sold to students who thought you must know what you are doing since we were backing you? You are a shameless thief in my opinion.

Andrew, you are done getting away with this. JJ is done with you, I am done with you, and anyone with a brain either is already done with you or will be done with you when all of us who have been protecting you and covering up for you stop doing so.

It is not possible to have any form of deco, engineering or other such discussion with you because you do not have the tools to discuss it. You are a parrot with an attitude, at best.

Take your little groupies and go do your own thing and call it your own thing - don't call it ?DIR? or ?GUE?. I don't want what I have developed perverted, confused, obfuscated or double talked by you in my name any longer.

thomssi

09-17-2005, 09:02 AM

DrMike,

Presumably you read the previous posts before as well. Was wondering if you/anyone else have any advice re: below.

I have ATX200 with TX50 alternate. In Dec I had a freeflow problem on primary. Got it serviced when I got home. Went on a trip in March and all was fine then went on another trip last month. Primary freeflowing again albeit very slowly - only 6 months since service and only one major trip in between (about 25 dives). Could be stopped by dialling down the 2nd stage.

Given the other posts on the thread we have both looked at and the end result this is pretty worrying. This only happened on the primary not the secondary. I guess it is "IP creep" but if so it seems to indicate the TX50 second stage can withstand a higher IP without freeflowing than the ATX200 can (otherwise both should have freeflowed). Obviously am going to take it to be looked at but do you have any other thoughts.

Thanks

Simon

DrMike

09-17-2005, 12:28 PM

This is what I do - but I'm certainly no expert (read lazy) and I don't use a service technician for any of my gear - but I'd advise others to so if they have any doubts, after all it is life support gear.

When my 2nd stages start to freeflow I hit them a bit, tap them a bit, give it bad looks for a while, press the purge several times and see if it stops*. If it doesn't I use a screwdriver to detune** it a tad to see if that will stop it. If that doesn't work I check the IP. If that's OK it's time to strip down and clean/service the 2nd stage.

*sometimes just a bit of crud needs dislodging

**If you remove the hose from the 2nd stage and look inside you will see the slot that enables turning to tune. Once tuned to test it you can reconnect and put the reg upside down in water - if it freeflows detune more. It should be on the edge tuned just back from freeflow so that you get a good work of breathing.

But if in doubt get it to a technician.

I doubt in your case it's IP creep - but it's easy enough to check. Richmonds sell a small gauge you can plug into your inflator hose to check to see what the IP is.

thomssi

09-17-2005, 12:36 PM

Thanks,

I tried purging a few times but that didn't help. I'm not too confident about much else so will pass on to the technician and make sure they specifically check the IP first to narrow down the problem. After that full servicing again I guess.

Thanks again

Simon

AFC

09-18-2005, 09:45 AM

Thanks,

I tried purging a few times but that didn't help. I'm not too confident about much else so will pass on to the technician and make sure they specifically check the IP first to narrow down the problem. After that full servicing again I guess.

Thanks again

Simon

Where you having it serviced?

thomssi

09-18-2005, 10:14 AM

At the local official distributors. They have all the testing gear on site. If you don't know who I mean will PM.

ColdFusion_GT

10-02-2005, 12:11 AM

Hey Dr Mike, can you keep this thread updated regarding AG and GI ? I want to see what AG's reply is. Is it really business or something else, thanks!

thomssi

10-02-2005, 02:58 PM

He responded on the link posted earlier on.

Here is a response on his own site.

<http://forum.5thd-x.com/viewtopic.php?p=4463&highlight=#4463>

kevrumbo

07-10-2008, 01:56 PM

Three consecutive days of 69m/230' dives, three hour SIT and then a second dive to 36m/120'; and the last two dive days "conservatively" at 60m/200' and 30m/100' respectively only because of rough weather & sea state --all profiles planned with Ratio Deco. (But not at all anything like the month's worth of diving below 75m/250' like AG did to validate the method, but good enough for me: I'm totally convinced of RD's utility & viability, especially when the nearest Recompression Chamber to my location was ten hours away)

Fabulous deep wall/reef diving; saw schools of Yellowfin, Bluefin and Dogtooth Tuna; swirling Jacks & Trevallys and Great Pacific Barracuda. The recreational divers above us at 24m/80' thanked us deep divers for "flushing" the Hammerheads and a Thresher Shark up to them (I didn't get to see them at all !). Thanks to George AngDyPay, proprietor of Boardwalk Dive Center (<http://www.boardwalkdivecenter.com/>) for providing the tanks, Helium and Oxygen Supplies, booster pump and arranging the logistics to get it out to the Borneo Explorer Liveaboard (<http://www.expeditionfleet.com/explorers/borneo%20explorer.htm>). (A possible future mixed gas helium/oxygen trip to Chuuk aboard the Pacific Explorer is being considered. . .)

69m/230' RD 1:2 Profile:

Depth (m) Time (min):

69m 15min

69m to 51m 2min (ascent @ 9m/min)

51m 5sec pause (Deep Stop)

48m 5sec

45 5sec

42 5sec

39 5sec

36 1min stop (Deep Stop)

33 1min

30 1min

27 2min

24 3min

21 7min (50% Eanx deco stop)

18 7min

15 2min

12 2min

9 2:3min (3min Backgas Break)

6 10:5min (O2 decostop:5min Backgas Break)

3 5min (on Oxygen to Surface)

Bottom mix: 18/45 (17/46 as actually analyzed)

DCR: 16L/min (0.6cf/min)

MGR: 100bar (half of backgas Dbl 11L/Dbl AL80's)

Water temperature: 30deg C to thermocline @51m; 26deg C at 69m

Tubbataha Reefs: a United Nations World Heritage Site (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/653>). . .