Press-Internet

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EDITORIAL

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Dear readers,

Castles in the air have never been my thing, but I would like to tell you about this one.
Air28 is the name of the stronghold whose knights from SUBEX recently dared to use their concept to shake up a high-revenue dragon's secure source of income.
In contrast to fairy tales, in which there is always only good and evil, my story is far more modern. But there is also a Grail, as known from the mythical tales, albeit a modern Grail and it is called NITROX. Media experts who should have invented a pleasant term for an oxygen-enriched breathing gas would certainly have come up with a different word. For example "AirXY"...
Last year, Ritter from Switzerland launched Air28, a breathing gas enriched with 28% oxygen, i.e. 7% more than normal breathing air. With this breathing gas, which is filled into the tanks of all guests of a SUBEX diving centre, the maximum depths of 40 meters in the Red Sea can be reached without risk and the danger of a decompression accident is minimized. In any case, after 12 months of Air28, Johann Vifian from SUBEX was able to clearly state that there had been no more problems with DCS1 (decompression sickness) during this period, whereas in the previous year the usual average of 17 such cases had to be documented.
The nitrox mixture with 28% oxygen, as offered by SUBEX as a standard filling, is dived with a computer setting that corresponds to a compressed air dive. The advantages of a higher oxygen content in the breathing air are not exhausted by the conservative dive calculation and thus guarantee a significant safety gain for all dives. In this case, it is therefore not necessary to complete extensive further training to confirm your ability to dive with Nitrox.
However, the advance with the lance of enriched breathing air naturally also attracted critics who, fearing for their sinecures, i.e. Nitrox certifications, opposed the small army of Air28 knights. These other - also not evil -

have been teaching the basics of diving with oxygen-enriched breathing air at a high level for a few years now, as if they wanted to drift into the tec diver camp from then on.
A public debate was therefore necessary and was held on the show stage at the boot trade fair. SUBEX, Padi and two independent representatives of medicine and physiology entered the ring. Actually, all this could have been avoided if the idea of NITROX had been presented to the diving public from the outset in the way that SUBEX is now doing with Air28: a barely perceptible threshold on contact with Nitrox and subsequent further training based on positive experience. The medical doctor, the physiologist and the head of SUBEX were only able to describe positive experiences and background information on Air28, and even the business side was not left out of the discussion on the show stage. After the introduction of Air28, SUBEX was able to convert significantly more divers to nitrox than a year earlier.
Being able to offer nitrox mixtures is undoubtedly a question of money, because the investment in the corresponding filling systems must primarily be covered by nitrox courses.
However, Air28 has proven to be an investment driver rather than a brake on investment. Furthermore, it saves costs and time for the care of divers who have suffered a decompression accident due to their dive profile with normal compressed air. Last but not least, the discipline of divers not to exceed the specified maximum diving depths increases. So everyone benefits from Air28 and the resulting facets.
So I hope that Air28 will become the international standard filling for scuba tanks.

And who invented it?.....?

Best regards

Michael Goldschmidt