

part 1

Your Role as an Instructor Trainer

**Common Elements for
All Instructor Courses**

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Introduction – How to Use This Manual

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About This Instructor Guide

The material within this instructor guide addresses the required academic material for not only the SDI Instructor program but also the; SDI Non-diving Instructor, TDI Instructor, TDI Non-diving Specialty Instructor, ERDI Instructor, ERDI Non-Open Water Instructor, and the ERDI Non-diving Instructor programs. Each agency has its own section for the trainer to follow when teaching instructors through that agency. For several topics the instructor trainer will be referred to other SDI, TDI or ERDI materials where information, such as current training standards, will be found.

The core subjects contained in instructor training are located in Part 1 Your Role as an Instructor Trainer. The additional required subjects for each specific agency are listed in subsequent sections:

Part 2: SDI

Part 3: TDI

Part 4: ERDI

Being a Professional Instructor Trainer

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Our Job as Instructor Trainers

It would be so nice if we could place our hand on a new instructor's shoulder and transfer every training situation, good or bad, we had been involved in over our scuba career. We can't do that so the next best thing is to pass these experiences along through the instructor training process and let them learn from us. Remember we must lead by example at all times. Whether it is in the classroom or at the local market, people are always evaluating our professionalism.

Being a Professional Instructor Trainer

What does that mean?

First of all being a professional instructor trainer means you are an ambassador for International Training. Many will look at you as an extension of headquarters. Secondly, you will need to work to maintain your knowledge and skill abilities. The following is a list that you should review on a periodic basis.

As an Instructor Trainer you will need to:

- Stay up-to-date and current with industry and agency changes and all associated standards and procedures
- Maintain the highest level of integrity
- Maintain the highest standards of teaching possible
- Maintain and share knowledge with students and others

- Be a role model to colleagues and students – current and future – and lead by example
- Be a role model who is physically fit, ethical, has a positive attitude, shows consideration for others (i.e. is on time)
- Be prepared
- Keep abreast of the latest technology and changes in scuba
- Acquire knowledge and skills necessary to offer and attract business - i.e. the business of scuba diving
- Charge a reasonable fee for services rendered
- Endeavor to be open-minded and fair
- Be a member of a self-policing organization
- Develop dive educators – teach people how to teach, NOT just mimic what someone else did
- Develop open-minded, patient dive instructors
- Teach divers how to pass on their knowledge in a professional manner

An IT has a unique opportunity to positively influence the personal development of others which will be long remembered after the students have completed their training.

