



Using the SUUNTO Gekko dive computer

The purpose of this information sheet is to act as a quick guide to the basic operation of the computer. Please also read the manual, and take the time to be familiar with the operations and warning tones of this computer. The full manual is available at: http://ns.suunto.com/Manuals/Gekko/Userguides/Gekko_userguide_EN.pdf

Below: Air-mode display during a dive. This occurs on contact with water.



Fig. 3.7. Diving display. Present depth is 19.3 m [63 ft] and no-decompression stop time limit is 23 minutes in A0/P1 mode. Maximum depth during this dive was 19.8 m [65 ft], water temperature is 18°C, elapsed dive time is 16 minutes.

Below: The display in Nitrox mode. If your display resembles Fig 3.21 before diving (and you're not planning to breathe Nitrox), switch back to "Air" mode, or have an experienced member do it for you, or you risk a higher chance of decompression sickness.



Fig. 3.21. Surface display in the Nitrox mode



Fig. 3.22. Diving in Nitrox mode. The O2% is set to 32%

Monitor and obey ascent rates, alarms and mandatory stops, including the count-down no-decompression stop time limit. If this counts down to 0, the decompression display will show (below). According to Fig 3.16, you should not surface before 6 minutes. Ascend to ~ 5m (3m at the shallowest depth) and wait for the 6 min to count down. Only a 3 minute safety stop is included, so consider adding another 2 minutes to make the club's recommended 5 minutes. If you ignore the Gekko's directions it will warn with Er (Error) display. Continued violations will lock the unit into Error for 48 hours, during which time you must not dive.



Fig. 3.16. Decompression dive, above floor. Upward pointing arrow has disappeared and ASC TIME label has stopped blinking, which means that you are in the decompression range.

While the Club recommends that members do not carry out decompression dives unless adequately trained and experienced, you need to be aware of what changes occur on your computer display if you move from a dive within your No Decompression Limits to a decompression dive so that you recognize that you are no longer doing a No Deco dive. If the NO DEC TIME remaining becomes less than zero the NO DEC TIME sign is replaced by an ASC sign above the total number of minutes needed to ascend displayed in the centre window, and the CEILING sign will be displayed above a depth Ceiling (or shallowest permitted depth) in the top right window (Fig. 3.16).

For all dives over 10m, the Gekko automatically sets and counts down a 3 min recommended Safety Stop when the diver enters the 3-6m range (Fig 3.9). The club recommends 5 min safety stops, so after the countdown has completed, wait another 2 min. If you exceed the ascent rate of 12 m/min briefly or 10 m/min continuously a Mandatory Stop is imposed. In this situation both STOP and the CEILING label are displayed (Fig. 3.13). How long a stop will depend on the severity of the ascent rate excess and this will only be displayed when the diver reaches the Stop Ceiling.



Fig. 3.9. A three minute Recommended Safety Stop.



Fig. 3.11. Ascent Rate Indicator. Maximum allowed rate. Four segments



Fig. 3.12. Ascent Rate Indicator. Blinking depth reading, SLOW and four segments are shown together with an audible alarm: ascent rate is more than 10 m/min [33 ft/min]. This is a caution to slow down! STOP sign means that you are advised to make a Mandatory Safety Stop when you reach a depth of 6 m



Fig. 3.13. A Mandatory Safety Stop. You are advised to make a 5 min Mandatory Safety Stop in the depth zone between 6 m and 3 m

Quick reference guide Gekko

