

The Comex Seabus Tourist Submersible (renamed the Deepstar in 1994) and Support Vessels – For Sale...



Deepstar Submarine & Support Vessels

The Deepstar submarine is the only all-acrylic pressure hull tourist submarine in the world. Built by Comex, S.A. of Marseille, France, the Deepstar has proven itself to be exceptionally reliable with over 3,200 incident free dives. Comex, formed in 1961, has built over 30 submarines, primarily for the offshore oil industry, military navies and foreign states. The Deepstar is capable of carrying 45 passengers in air-conditioned comfort to a depth of 80 meters (260 feet). It is currently classed A1 Manned Submersible by the American Bureau of Shipping.



Deepstar Submarine



View from inside the Deepstar


Unlike traditional tourist submarines with small port holes for viewing, the Deepstar provides unparalleled views through its all acrylic pressure hull. In addition, acrylic has the same refractive properties as water so it provides an undistorted view of the outside marine life.

Deepstar Submarine Specifications

General Specifications		Battery & Electrical System	
Certification	ABS A1 Manned Sub	Main Battery	240 VDC
Operating Depth	80m	Emergency Battery	24 VDC
Passengers	45	Battery Capacity	420 KWH
Crew	2	Battery Charging Time	10 hours
Length	19.0m	Ballast & Trim Systems	
Beam	4.0m	Main Ballast Capacity	10,000 KG
Pressure Hull Diameter	2.2m	Variable Ballast	4,000 KG
Draft	3.1m	Trim/Drop Weight	4,000 KG
Weight In Air	90 tons	Life Support	
Side Viewports	Acrylic cylinders	Mission Life Support	12 hours for 48 passengers
Bow Viewport Diameter	2.2m	Emergency Life Support	72 hours for 48 passengers
Dynamic Characteristics		CO2 Absorbent	Sofnolime
Maximum Surface Speed	3 knots	Air Conditioning	33,000 BTU/hr
Cruising Submerged Speed	1 knot	Navigation & Communications	
Maximum Submerged Speed	3 knots	Compass Main	Magnetic fluxgate
Propulsion		Speed Log	Digital
Main Thrust Motors	2 x 7.5 KW	Depth Gauge	Digital & analog
Vertical Thrusters	2 x 7.5 KW	Active Sonar	Color imaging
Bow Thruster	1 x 7.5 KW	Surface Communication	VHF marine
Stern Thruster	1 x 7.5 KW	Subsurface UWT	27 KHZ
Endurance			
Submerged Endurance	12 hours @ 1.5 knots		
Gas Supply			
Main Oxygen	725 l @ 200 bar		
Main Air	1875 l @ 245 bar		

ABS Certificate

AMERICAN BUREAU OF SHIPPING



CHARTERED 1862 NUMBER 9203655

CERTIFICATE OF CLASSIFICATION

DEEP STAR

of - - -

Description Submersible

Dimensions, Length 19.263M Breadth 3.999M Depth 5.401M

Tonnage, Gross _____ Net _____

Owner AQUATIC LEASURE INTERNATIONAL

Shipbuilder COMEX INDUSTRIES

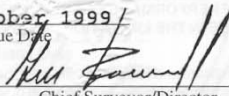
Engine Builder _____


Year of Build 1992 Hull Number 172156

This is to Certify that the above has been surveyed in accordance with the Rules of this Bureau and entered in the Record with the Class

*A1 Submersible

28 October 1999 Issue Date 31 August 2002 Expiration Date


Chief Surveyor/Director of Classification


Assistant Secretary

NOTE: This certificate evidences compliance with one or more of the Rules, Guides, standards or other criteria of American Bureau of Shipping and is issued solely for the use of the Bureau, its committees, its clients or other authorized entities. The classification certificate is a representation only that the vessel, structure, item of material, equipment or machinery or any other item covered by this certificate has met one or more of the Rules of American Bureau of Shipping. The certificate is governed by the terms and conditions on the reverse side hereof, and governed by the Rules and standards of American Bureau of Shipping who shall remain the sole judge thereof.

AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY

The Deepstar is supported by two additional vessels; the Shooting Star, a 90 passenger high-speed catamaran and the Stargate, the Deepstar's support barge.



Shooting Star Catamaran

The Stargate is an 85-foot self-propelled barge which was designed specifically to support the Deepstar's operations. During passenger carrying operations the Deepstar is able to dock inside the Stargate and be lifted out of the water. This provides a stable platform from which passengers can be loaded and off loaded the submarine with the highest level of safety. The Stargate also houses the high-pressure compressors, battery chargers, workshop, tools, etc. necessary to maintain and service the Deepstar. Unfortunately, the Stargate does not have the ability at this time to charge the Deepstar unless it is plugged into shore power.



Stargate support barge

The Shooting Star is a high-speed catamaran designed to carry passengers to and from the dock and the submarine operations off shore. The Shooting Star is powered by twin 350 HP Caterpillar diesels and is capable carrying 90 passengers at speeds of 18 knots.



Deepstar docked in the Star Gate

The Deepstar, Stargate and Shooting Star underwent an extensive refit at Bradford Grand Bahama at a cost in excess of \$400,000. However, all vessels are in poor condition at this time.

Tourist Submarine Industry

The first true tourist submarine was the August Piccard, which was developed by Dr. Jacques Piccard in the early 1960's. This submarine operated at the Swiss National Exposition from 1964 to 1965 where it safely carried over 32,000 passengers. Unfortunately, after the exposition, the August Piccard was put into commercial use and never carried tourists again.



Deepstar docked in the Stargate

Nearly 20 years later, Research Submersibles, Ltd. (RSL) became the first company in today's tourist submarine industry. In the early 1980's RSL purchased several work submersibles, mostly retired DSV (Deep Submersible Vehicles) type submersibles designed to carry a pilot and a 2 to 3 man crew for offshore oil drilling operations. They began tourist operations in 1983 diving along the Grand Cayman wall up to depths of 250 meters (820 feet).



Deepstar undergoing is refit at Bradford

The first company to use submarines specifically built for the tourist submarine industry was Sub Aquatics Development Corporation, later renamed Atlantis Submarines International, Inc. (Atlantis). Formed in 1983 Atlantis has grown to become the largest tourist submarine operator in the world with operations in Grand Cayman, Barbados, St. Thomas, Aruba, Guam, Cozumel and on the Hawaiian islands of Kona, Maui and Waikiki. Atlantis employs approximately 450 people, operating 14 tourist submarines, and have carried over 6 million passengers.



Deepstar descending on a dive

The tourist submarine industry has a remarkable safety record. Through almost 20 years and millions of passengers carried there has never been a passenger fatality