Diver’s P&I Cover

Risk solutions covering liability for professional divers
Providing the widest range of risk solutions

In a world of increasing complexity, Gard’s objective is to help our Members and clients manage the totality of their exposures – both to existing and developing risks.

As a multi-line insurer – with the strongest rating in the marine market – Gard is uniquely positioned to understand how risks fit together, and identify the best choice of products, ensuring seamless coverage and service.

Innovation has always been a cornerstone of Gard’s business model and, over the years, we have refined and extended our standard products and introduced a range of additional products, responding to special needs and requirements from different parts of the marine industry.

Liabilities, losses, costs and expenses arising out of the activities of professional or commercial divers are excluded from standard P&I cover. Gard’s CGL cover provides a partial reinstatement of the cover lost by the exclusion, affording cover for liabilities caused by the actions of divers, but the CGL cover does not respond to liabilities for personal injury, illness or death of the divers themselves. In contrast, the Diver’s cover provides a complete solution to the exclusion in P&I cover, responding to the Assured’s liability as an employer as well as the Assured’s liability to third parties caused by the divers’ acts or omissions (when there is no underlying CGL cover responding to third party liabilities).

Further information can be found on our webpage (www.gard.no) under “Products”, or from your usual contact.
Scope of cover

Liabilities in respect of divers

Liabilities, losses, costs and expenses arising out of the personal injury, illness or death of commercial divers engaged by the Assured.

Legal and other costs incurred to protect or defend against recoverable liabilities.

Third party liabilities incurred by the divers

Liabilities incurred by the Assured to a third party as a result of an act or omission of commercial divers engaged by the Assured.

Legal and other costs incurred to protect or defend against recoverable liabilities.

Important exclusions

Damage to contract works caused by divers.

Who can be covered?

Existing Members and clients of Gard P&I and Gard Marine & Energy

Limit of cover

Standard limit of USD 25 million per any one event.

Divers' P&I Cover follows the diver rather than the vessel, installation or diving activity. The Cover responds to liabilities to the diver during the period defined in the employment contract.
Case studies

Injury to a professional diver resulting from diving operations

A diver employed by a Member dives from the Member’s vessel to carry out underwater welding on a pipeline 100 metres below the surface. During the repairs, the diver damages the pipeline and causes an explosion, not only severely injuring himself and damaging the pipeline but damaging a pipeline from an adjoining field as well. The diver is entitled to USD 150,000 under his employment contract, but is not satisfied and successfully sues the Member in tort. In addition to the damage award of USD 300,000 to the diver, the Member has incurred other expenses in relation to the diver, amounting to USD 470,000. There is also a claim for damage to the third party pipeline, and a claim for damage to the installation on which the diver was employed.

The Gard solution
The Divers Cover responds to the liabilities relating to the injured diver, both contractual disability compensation, medical expenses, sick wages, repatriation and substitution expenses, as well as the court award exceeding the compensation amount in the employment contract. The liability for the third party (adjoining field) is also covered, however the Cover excludes liability for damage to the contract works (the pipeline upon which the diver was working at the time of the incident).

Injury to a professional diver whilst diving from an onshore site

A diver employed by the Member is diving in a dam, inspecting the lock gate. The lock is opened before the diver has managed to get out of the water and the current drags the diver under. The diver drowns. The diver’s family claims USD 250,000 which is the contractual death compensation. In addition the family is awarded USD 250,000 by a court for emotional distress. In connection with the diving operation the diver damaged a cable supplying electricity to the dam area. The port claims for repair costs and for loss of use of the dam area.

The Gard solution
The Divers’ P&I Cover responds to operations carried out from onshore sites and covers the contractual liability as well as the compensation awarded by the court. Further the Cover responds to the repair costs and for the loss of use.

10 divers die in one accident

10 divers employed by the Member are travelling to the diver site by helicopter. The helicopter crashes into the ocean before reaching the diving site. All ten divers are killed. The families of the deceased divers are entitled to a total of USD 2.5 million in compensations.

The Gard solution
The liability is covered by the Diver’s P&I Cover. The cover follows the divers and responds to the Member’s contractual liability to the diver. It is not a condition that the claim is a direct result of any diving activity.