

ANTARESTM
OVAL DRY GLOVE SYSTEM



ANTARES OVAL DRY GLOVE SYSTEM BY SI TECH

Photo: Jonas Wall

www.sitech.se

SI TECH[®]
INNOVATIVE SAFETY SOLUTIONS – MADE IN SWEDEN

The Oval revolution

We want to congratulate you on your purchase of the ANTARES – Modular Dry Glove System. The oval design and quick lock system will provide you with unique diving experiences in regards to simplicity and comfort. The ANTARES is an extension of the QCS Oval system (launched in 2010).

The system is available in four different package versions:

- 60610 ANTARES Dry Glove components.
- 60620 ANTARES Dry Glove components and QCS Oval Ring.
- 60600 ANTARES Dry Glove components and QCS Oval kit (silicone seal of standard size included).
- 60602 ANTARES Dry Glove components and QCS Oval kit (latex seal of medium size included).

Gloves are not included in any of these packages!

ALWAYS DIVE THE ANTARES SYSTEM WITH SEALS INSTALLED

This manual does not address the topic of gluing/attaching the PU-Ring of the QCS Oval to your drysuit. **Please visit: www.sitech.se for further information.**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

If you are using the old QCS Oval system, you will need to change the Oval Stiff Ring to the one included with the ANTARES system.



Profile of the new ANTARES Oval Stiff Ring Profile of the old QCS Oval Stiff Ring

This image displays the molded core components making the system unique!



Components

The ANTARES Oval Dry Glove System consists of six components per arm.

- The PU-Ring (to be glued into the suit)
- The Oval Stiff Ring (Antares version)
- The Oval Glove Ring
- The Oval Spanner Ring
- Seal (silicone or latex)
- Glove (to be bought separately)

Function

The ANTARES Oval Dry Glove System does not have any external details for a connection and locking procedure. This is a major reason for our success in reducing the outer bulk volume of the system.



Double O-rings keeps the Oval Glove Ring in place and ensures that the system is not leaking. A latch arm on either side of the Oval Glove Ring engages in a locking groove on each side of the Oval Stiff Ring.

The guide grooves in the Oval Stiff Ring are also designed to facilitate removal of the Oval Glove Ring.

Maintenance and Storage

- Always disassemble the Oval Stiff Ring and the Oval Glove Ring when not in use!
- The O-rings must be cleaned and lubricated before use.
- Remove the Oval Stiff Ring regularly to rinse the wrist seal of salt or debris, and to relieve the wrist rings and seals from stress settings that will occur when the units are left assembled over any period of time. Avoid exposing the PU-Ring to heat or sunlight. Subjecting the assembled unit to prolonged heat or sunlight with an inserted cuff seal is not recommended.

Spare Parts

Item no.	Item
60251	PU-Ring for Oval systems
60260	Oval Stiff Ring
60261	ANTARES Glove Ring
60263	ANTARES Spanner Ring (blue)*
60264	ANTARES Spanner Ring (green)*
80173	Black O-ring (thin)
82038	Red O-ring (thick)
60540	Lube Stick for O-rings
60233	Pressure equalization tube
61025	Silicone Seal, Regular (circumference 13,2-17 cm / 5,2-6,7")
61026	Silicone Seal, Small (circumference 10,6-15 cm / 4,2-5,9")
61060	Latex Seal, X-Small (circumference 12,5-14 cm / 5,0-5,5")
61061	Latex Seal, Small (circumference 13,5-16 cm / 5,4-6,4")
61062	Latex Seal, Medium (circumference 15,5-18 cm / 6,2-7,4")
61063	Latex Seal, Large (circumference 18-21 cm / 7,2-8,4")

The ANTARES system comes with O-rings mounted. Image displays the correct groove for each O-ring.

Thick O-ring
Thin O-ring



*The blue Spanner Ring is designed to fit most common gloves. The Green Spanner Ring is thicker and designed for gloves made of thin fabrics.

1. Mounting seals



1.1 Assemble the seal by inserting it through the Oval Stiff Ring, and bringing it back 1,5 cm over the ring.

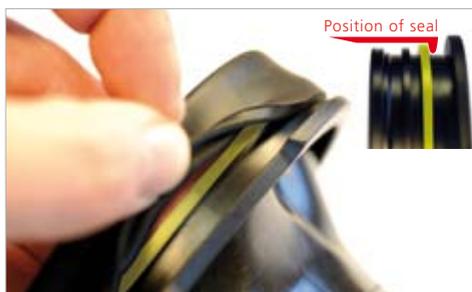
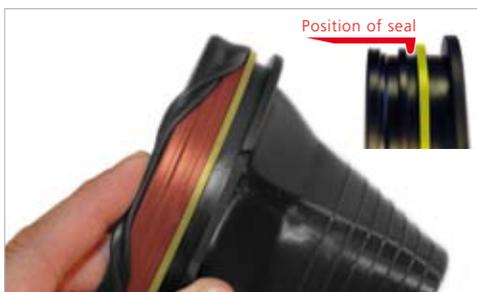
Colour markings are only for illustrative use and are not to be found on the products.

Profile of Oval Suit Ring



1.2 Different drysuits, drysuit designs and fabrics demands a different approach when mounting the seal. Refer to images **1.3-1.4**.

NOTE: The silicone seal has a shiny surface on one side and a matte finish on the other, bear in mind that it is the matte surface seals against your skin.

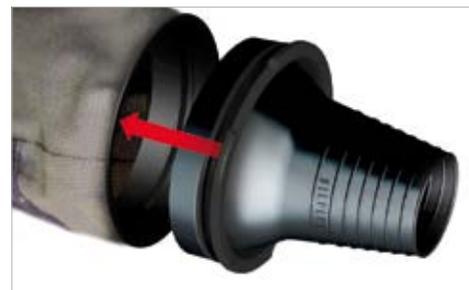


IMPORTANT: These two images illustrate two different ways of positioning the seal depending on the design and fabric of the drysuit and how the PU-Ring is attached into the drysuit! When you have reached the final step in the mounting process of your QCS Oval, one of these mounting alternatives will work better than the other. It is important to try assembling the components both ways to see which one works best.

1.3 Adjust the seal so that it covers the area marked red and aligns towards the part of the Oval Stiff Ring marked yellow.

1.4 The alternative way to do this is to adjust the seal so that it covers the area marked yellow. Preferred alternative depends on the design of the suit!

2. Attach to PU-Ring



2.1 Now it's time to mount the Oval Stiff Ring with seal into the PU-Ring on the drysuit. Read the step by step instructions carefully so as not to damage the seal or mismatch the rings.



2.2 Keep the seal in a fixed grip and rest the Oval Stiff Ring firmly against your hand, when pressing the rings together. This will prevent the seal from slipping out of position.



2.3 Squeeze the two rings together, make sure that the seal does not slide out of its position.



2.4 if the seal slips out of its groove, it will almost certainly be squashed between the rings. If this happens, detach and restart from image 1.1 (check seal from damage).



2.5 Make sure the Oval Stiff Ring is bottomed out and that the Ring flange is in the position shown in the image. Before diving your ANTARES system, you should check that the Oval Stiff Ring and seal has been fixed correctly in position. Grab the seal with one hand and try to pull it in the opposite direction from the suit without using excessive force. If everything feels ok, perform test dive! If not ok, refer to images **1.3-1.4**.

3. Detaching the QCS Oval assembly



3.1 Grab the QCS Oval assembly as shown in these images. Push the front end of the PU-Ring up and away from the Oval Stiff Ring using your thumbs. At the same time press the back end of the PU-Ring inwards to press the Oval Stiff Ring out of its position to release the whole assembly.

4. Attach glove

The ANTARES Dry Glove System is offering the user to choose from a variety of gloves. It is of great importance that you check the strength of the attachment as shown in image **4.6** after you have completed the attachment procedure.

The surface of some fabrics as well as the thickness of some gloves will not be suitable for the system. It is crucial for the safety of the diver that the strength test is made (**4.6**)!



4.1 Place the Oval Spanner Ring on the inside of the glove. Make sure to find proper position for optimized length and ergonomics.



4.2 Fold the glove shaft inwards over the Oval Spanner Ring, (latex gloves can be fitted and folded the opposite way).



4.3 Press the glove with Oval Spanner Ring evenly into the Oval Glove Ring.



4.4 Check for creases on the glove continuously when pressing the Glove/Oval Spanner Ring into final position. The glove should be positioned as displayed in this image.



4.5 Press the glove and Oval Spanner Ring so that it bottoms in the Oval Glove Ring. Perform this procedure 360° around the ring.



4.6 Test the strength of attachment by pulling the Oval Glove Ring and the glove in the opposite direction.



4.7 For the best comfort and performance, cut back excess glove material. Our recommendation is to remove enough excess material to prevent interference with the latch arms.

5. Donning



5.1 Put your hand through the seal and fit the equalization tube between seal and wrist. Make sure the equalization tube reaches all the way through the seal.



5.2 When using inner gloves, make sure that no part of the inner glove interferes with the seals, O-rings or Oval Rings.



5.3 Begin by aligning the Oval Rings before you start pressing the assembly together. This is crucial! Otherwise, the latch arms may not lock into the locking grooves.



5.4 Press the Oval Glove Ring into the Oval Stiff Ring on both sides until you see that it has bottomed and is properly fitted.



5.5 Check the fittings between the Oval Glove Ring and the Oval Stiff Ring. Ensure the latch arms have locked into the locking grooves and that the alignment nuts has positioned itself in its alignment grooves.

Dive the system in shallow waters until you feel confident with the system!

6. Doffing



6.1 Hold the drysuit side of the system firmly as displayed in the image above. (Hold steady when initiating hand rotation).



6.2 Make a fist. This action will inhibit the movement of glove fabric when rotating your hand to release the system.



6.3 Turn your hand "thumbs inwards" and strive to push your hand forward until the system will unlock and release. In some cases it is easier for some users to turn the hand "thumb outwards". This may be dependant on how the user has positioned the Oval Glove Ring in conjunction with the drysuit.



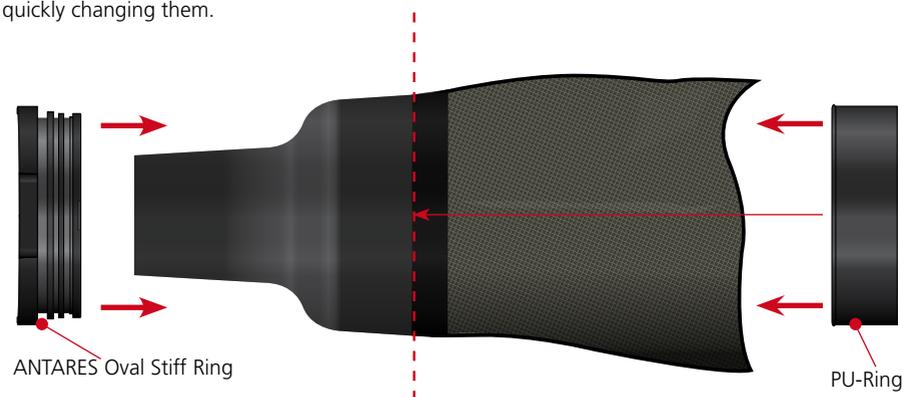
6.4 The Oval Glove Ring and glove is now unlocked and opened, ready to be removed.

These are suggested instructions only.

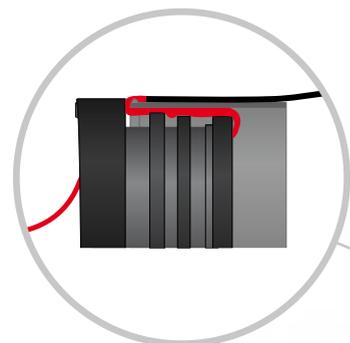
Whatever method chosen, be certain the wrist seal, be it latex or silicone, is properly treated. Always make a leakage and stress test on your drysuit seals before diving.

Attachment to fixed seals

This method of fitting the ANTARES system is an alternative to the usual procedure of gluing the PU-Ring onto the drysuit. Use this method if you are happy to use fixed seals without the ability of quickly changing them.

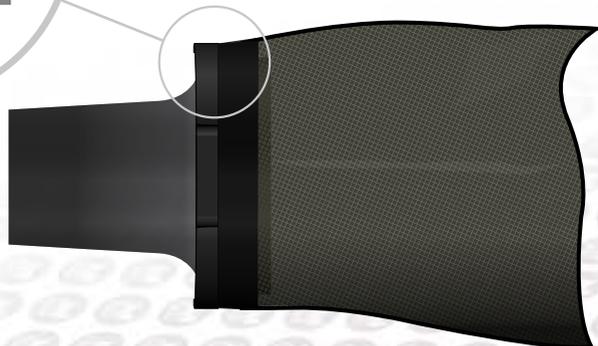


Locate the PU-Ring on the inside of the suit, with its front end positioned at the rear end of the seal. Keep it here while threading the ANTARES Oval Stiff Ring on top of the seal, and finally pressing it into the PU-Ring with the seal pinned in between. **Ensure that the Oval Stiff Ring is as close as bottomed into the PU-Ring as possible and that the seal has not been pinned double as this can cause leakage.**



The red area illustrates the seal pinned in between the PU-ring (light grey) and the Oval Stiff Ring.

The PU-Ring shall be positioned with its front end towards the rear end of the seal.



Tips, Tricks and Troubleshooting

The ANTARES Dry Glove System is a technically advanced Dry Glove System because of its oval shape and slim design. The locking system has some advanced features to keep the slim design. The system itself requires some training and practise before handling comfort arises in regards to donning and doffing.

Here are some tips from the test divers who evaluated the system:

- O-rings should be generously lubricated. Remove old lubricant residues from adjacent parts of the system before joining the rings together.
- Ensure that the alignment nut has reached its correct position and that the Oval Glove Ring has bottomed into the Oval Stiff Ring.

Leakage problems?

- Check for scratches and tears in the glove.
- Make sure that your inner glove has not interfered with O-rings or latch arms/locking grooves.
- Ensure that the inside of the Oval Stiff Ring is clean.
- Ensure that the O-rings are clean, undamaged and properly lubricated.
- Ensure that the latch arms and locking grooves are clean from debris or grease.
- Check for creases in the attachment area between Glove and Oval Glove Ring.
- Check so that the alignment nut is in its correct position and that the Oval Glove Ring has bottomed in its position of the Oval Stiff Ring.
- If leakage occurs when you are twisting and moving your hand, your glove is most likely too short. When you twist your hand, the glove will get stretched and force the Oval Glove Ring to open up slightly.

Problems with releasing the system after dive?

If the Oval Glove Ring is jammed and does not want to come off, this is most likely a result of poor maintenance and/or improper lubrication of O-Rings. O-rings must be clean and lubricated before each use.

The Oval Stiff Ring and the Oval Glove Ring should not be joined together when not in use. This can result in lubricant rancidity which will make the Oval Glove Ring extremely hard to remove.

