

DAN AP News

Staff and directors from DAN Asia-Pacific have been busy attending diving trade shows over the past few months – too many!

Previously there was one larger show, ADEX, which was designed to cater for most of the Asia. However, over the last few years, independent dive shows have sprung up in Thailand, Malaysia, Taiwan, Indonesia, the Philippines, China and Singapore. As a result, each show is smaller and caters more to local divers.

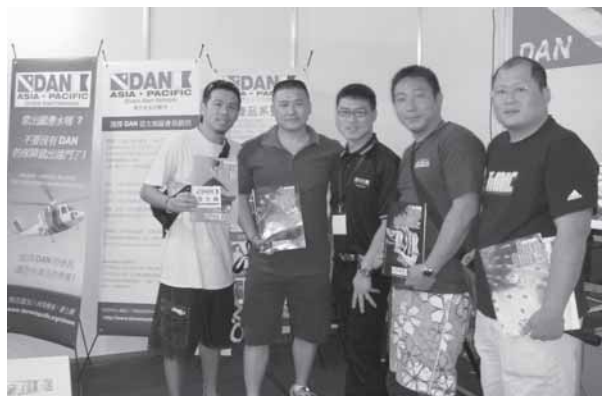
It is increasingly more difficult for international organizations like DAN AP, the diver training agencies, large dive gear distributors and resort operators to attend so many individual shows and increasingly many are simply not doing so, especially in the current economic climate. While there may have been some growth in certain newer shows, others have become far less attractive to divers and exhibitors.

Although DAN AP has been involved in many of the shows this year, from next year, we plan to alternate between shows and may only attend each show every two years. It is our hope that eventually common sense will prevail and a strong regional show will re-emerge, possibly involving the organizers of the local shows, and equitably rotate through various appropriate countries within Asia.

This year to date we have attended OZTek in Sydney, DEEP in Jakarta, DEM in Taiwan, ADEX in Singapore and, soon MIDE in Kuala Lumpur.

OZTEK 2009

OZTek was an exception this year in that it is designed to be a relatively small, 'boutique' show, specifically catering for keen technical divers and, as such, it was embraced enthusiastically. It also differs in that it is largely focused on a busy and diverse agenda of lectures from a variety of international speakers.



McGill Cheng (centre) and visitors at DEM.

DEM 2009

DAN Instructor-Trainer McGill Cheng set up and manned the DAN AP booth at DEM this year. McGill is working hard to increase the presence of DAN in Taiwan and we are very grateful to him for his continued efforts.

DEEP Indonesia

DAN Directors John Lippmann and David Natoli manned our stand in Jakarta, assisted by DAN Instructor Peter Manz. There is certainly a growing interest in diving in Indonesia at this time and this was reflected by the enthusiasm of some of the attendees.

Reef Preservation in the Philippines

In February, John Lippmann was invited by the Philippines Department of Tourism to attend the launch of a new dive site and reef management plan. The aim of the plan is to protect the beautiful reefs in the Philippines to ensure that they are maintained appropriately and available to be enjoyed by divers, and others, well into the future.

The plan includes the collection of a small levy from reef users, with the funds generated directed to local government to be used for appropriate reef management and protection.

DAN AP is very grateful to the Department of Tourism, especially Ms Cynthia Carrion, for inviting DAN to play a part in the seminar.

Jakarta Chamber Visit

While attending DEEP in Jakarta, John Lippmann took the opportunity to visit the hyperbaric unit in the nearby Indonesian Military Hospital.

The unit looked very impressive and well capable of treating a diver in need. DAN AP is grateful to Dr Anton Budiono for arranging the visit and we look forward to working together in the future for the benefit of recreational divers in local waters.

DAN Safety Seminar in Bali

While passing through Sanur recently, DAN AP Directors David Natoli and John Lippmann ran a Dive Safety Seminar. This impromptu seminar was well attended by local dive professionals

Some of the medical staff at the hyperbaric unit at Dr Mintohardjo Hospital in Jakarta.

