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Product Review By Sandy Sondrol

ATOMIC'S SUBFRAME MASK With ARC (Anti-Reflective Coating)



I had heard good things about the new Atomic masks. When it came time for me to replace one of my old masks, I decided to try a new technology. I'm really glad that I did. I think that this new mask is everything that Atomic claims it to be.

I bought my mask just before a trip to Grand Cayman. It's new and different, so I took along a spare, tried and true mask in case the Atomic mask didn't work out. I never touched the old mask. On the very first dive I fell in love.

I have three criteria for my personal mask: 1) Comfortable fit; 2) low volume; 3) clear, unobstructed vision. This mask met all of my criteria completely. Comfortable fit: The silicone skirt is the softest that I have ever seen. It feels like I am putting my face into a firm pillow. Low volume: The photo gives a good indication of the mask's shape and volume. Low volume allows a mask to clear more easily, and reduces "leaking" because there is less air inside to compress and therefore suck water in. This mask was extremely easy to clear, and my reaction is that I did not need to clear it as often as I have with masks in the past.

Clear, unobstructed vision: The unobstructed part is easy to determine...the mask sits very close to my eyes, so the center post is not visible; the lenses are wide and extend below my normal line of sight so I have a wide field of vision and can also see my gauges and computer without needing to tip my head down or move my arm up very much. Clear vision is more subjective, but my personal assessment is that Atomic's claim of better clarity is valid as well. Their concept is that the anti-reflective coating reduces glare and allows the wearer to see more clearly. I really don't remember noticing glare when using other masks in the past, but when wearing this mask, the colors seemed brighter and visibility seemed clearer as well.

I admit it, I'm hooked. You can find out more at: www.atomicaquatics.com and at your local Atomic products dealer.