## **Dolphin Suits**

Dolphin Manufacturing Company of 9642 East Artesia Boulevard, Bellflower, California designed and manufactured rubber spearfishing suits in the 1950s. It also carried a full line of skin-diving equipment from fins to air refills.

Its successor, Dolphin Enterprises, traded at the same address, retailing the original frontentry Dolphin suits "factory direct" in cheaper ready-made and kit forms before launching a new 2-ply pocket entry suit. It also sold moulds for weight-belt weights.

The company appears to have changed its name again to "Penguin Suits" after moving to Long Beach, California with the pocket entry suit as its leading product.

Historical Diving Suits

11



**Dolphin Spearfishing Suit** 



**Dolphin Underwater Exposure Suit** 

## **Dolphin Suit Facts**

- All Dolphin suits were full-length dry-type unisex models made of gum rubber.
- The original Dolphin spearfishing suit came with a front-entry tie-off chute, hood and moulded boots in four sizes (small, medium, large and extra large) or custom-built. Standard green and deluxe kelp or sand cost \$37.50 and \$42.50 respectively. Factory-direct ready-made suits were priced at \$39.95 while kit suits costing \$24.95 could be self-assembled in three hours.
- The new Dolphin underwater exposure suit cost \$49.95 and came in small, medium, large and custom sizes. It featured pocket entry, 2-ply material, fused tapered seams and moulded boots.

## References

- 1. Skin Diving History (2006) Early Mfg. & Retailers Dolphin Enterprises, http://www.skindivinghistory.com/mfg\_retailers/d/Dolphin\_Enterprises/Index.html
- 2. Skin Diving History (2006) Early Mfg. & Retailers Dolphin Manufacturing Co, http://www.skindivinghistory.com/mfg\_retailers/d/Dolphin\_Manufacturing\_Co/index.html