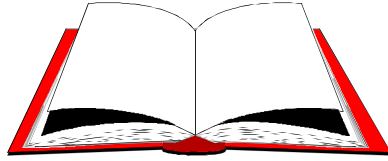


# New Boating Safety Book Available Soon



The Alaska Sea Grant College Program in cooperation with the U.S. Marine Safety Association is publishing *WaterWise*, a boating safety book for the national audience. Written by Sue Jensen of the Educational Training Company and AMSEA's Jerry Dzugan, this book promises to fill in a gap. It is a boating safety book for both coastal and offshore boaters.

The book will be available in the Spring of 1999. It will have chapters on preparation, first aid, safe seamanship, sea and shore survival, fire fighting, safety orientations, reading the weather, life saving equipment, man overboard recovery and much more. AMSEA looks forward to having this resource available soon and thanks the U.S. Marine Safety Association, Alaska Sea Grant and the many contributors to this project.

The next issue of *Marine Safety Update* will have ordering information on this new product in boating safety education.

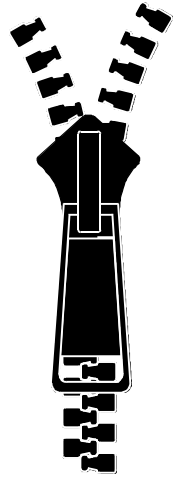


# NEW! Immersion Suit Video Ready for Viewing

*When Seconds Count: Care and Use of Immersion Suits*, a joint project of the University of Alaska Marine Advisory Program and AMSEA, has just been released. The 15 minute film, with videography by Deborah Mercy, covers the latest on storage, sizing, donning, emergency use and tips for selecting a personal suit. It also surveys features common to many brands.

The video, may be purchased from AMSEA for \$15.00 plus \$3.00 shipping. It is also available from the Marine Advisory Program, 2221 East Northern Lights Blvd., Suite 110, Anchorage, AK. 99508-4140.

# BROKEN IMMERSION SUIT ZIPPER LEADS TO LOSS OF LIFE



The recent capsizing of the 37-foot F/V Kavkaz in Kachemak Bay near Homer resulted in the loss of one life and the saving of another. Two brothers, Anton and Fred, were returning from fishing when 70 knot winds and icing conditions capsized their vessel in seconds. Water ran into the cabin and the two donned immersion suits. As the boat sank, they followed a pocket of air under the vessel to the engine room.

When rescuers arrived on the scene, they could find no survivors or bodies. Another fishing vessel towed the hull of the Kavkaz to the beach at high tide. At low tide, knocking sounds were heard, and chain saws were used to open the hull. Some 24 hours after the capsizing, rescuers found Anton barely alive where he had wedged himself between the engine and water tank. His brother Fred had died, however. Anton was taken to the Port Graham clinic where he was treated gently and rewarmed using a blanket heated in a clothes dryer.

Why did one brother die and the other survive? The answer lies in a zipper. The zipper of Fred's immersion suit had broken. Water entered his suit and hypothermia set in more quickly than it should have.

Another vessel iced up and capsized in Resurrection Bay near Seward. In this case, one person also survived and one did not. The fatality was yet another person with — you guessed it — a broken immersion suit zipper.

Have you checked **your** immersion suit zipper lately? Check to see that the zipper is in good condition and is well lubricated.

Recognition is due the Port Graham Clinic staff for handling the severely hypothermic victim from the F/V Kavkaz carefully and effectively and for not giving up! The axiom that a hypothermia victims are "not dead until they are warm and dead" was demonstrated in this case. Also congratulations to Skip Richards of Chugachmiut Corp. for his training and emphasis on cold water emergencies in Port