

Penguin Dry Suits

In the 1950s Penguin Suits of 6162 Atlantic Avenue, Long Beach CA (formerly Dolphin Enterprises) designed and manufactured foam neoprene shorty and full-length wet suits for water skiing and skin-diving as well as two-ply full-length gum-rubber dry suits. The company's slogan was "For The World's Finest in Exposure Suits of all Kinds, be sure it's a PENGUIN".

Penguin Inc designed and made two models of dry suit, coded P-1 and P-2. Both were constructed in gum rubber blended with 10% or 8% neoprene. On the outside, red and blue were alternative colours to black. As can be seen below, the suits were unisex.



Penguin P-1 Pocket Entry Dry Suit



Penguin P-2 Waist Entry Dry Suit

Penguin Dry Suit Facts

- The material used to construct the suits was 0.35 gauge two-ply pure gum rubber with 10% neoprene, red on black (8% neoprene and blue on black in the case of the P-2 suit)
- The suits came in full length with seamless moulded boots with scuff soles and an optional hood.
- Intersections were reinforced and seams were fused and tapered to ensure watertightness.
- The P-1 suit had pocket entry allowing positive sealing and an easy entrance without assistance, while the P-2 was a waist-entry two-piece suit.
- The price of the P-1 and P-2 suits was \$46.50 (a watertight relief pocket on the pants costing \$4.00 extra) and \$49.50 respectively.
- A patent was pending on the P-1 suit.

Reference

1. Skin Diving History (2006) *Early Mfg. & Retailers - Penguin Inc*, http://www.skindivinghistory.com/mfg_retailers/p/Penguin_Inc/index.html