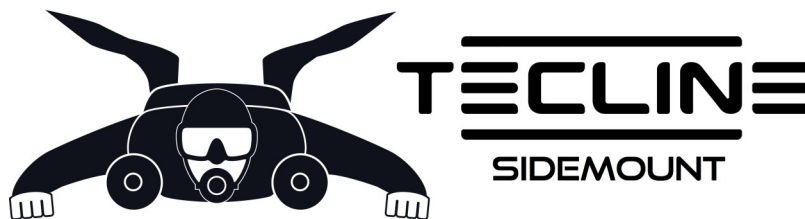


*Sidemount configuration was used by the early cave explorers, looking for a way to transport their tanks comfortable in the dry cave sections and being able to pass through narrow restrictions under water and if necessary to completely remove and replace the tanks under water.*



In those early pioneer days there were no commercial sidemount sets available, so self-constructed harnesses were used to hang the tanks more or less on the side and a couple of regulators in a recreational configuration to complete the setup. That was it and it worked, most of the times.

Things evolved a lot since those pioneer days. Materials and designs got much better. The general diving philosophy emphasized a lot more on safety, resulting in more specialized and thorough dive training. But most importantly many of those DIY sets, be it backmount, sidemount etc. were crystallized by the dive gear manufacturers into commercial available kits.

The last 5 years, diving with side mounted tanks changed from being a necessity for cave explorers into a well appreciated and comfortable way of diving for the mainstream diving (recreational and technical) population.



Many brands jumped on this new phenomenon and created SM sets just to have a SM set in their product range. Some were successful, many others not.

Tecline took another approach and listened to the needs, experiences and wishes of SM divers (both rec, tec and cave) and used this as a guideline to create the ultimate SM set.

The main goal with this approach was not to create another new sidemount system just for the sake of it. No, this was all about creating a robust, clean and simple to use sidemount set both for recreational- and technical SM divers.

The base for the Avenger was Tecline's sidemount set, SIDE 16. The SIDE 16 is a good SM set but still left enough room for improvement. And so it happened. Michaël Doumont (XperienceDiving/MDSTechnology) and Karel Levräu (Narcotec) disassembled the SIDE 16 and rebuilt it with a fair deal of improvements. After a lot of testing and fine tuning the details and improvements, they claimed this remodeled Tecline SM set to be the ultimate in SM diving. So this is how Tecline's **SIDE 16 AVENGER** was born.

# SIDE 16 AVENGER

## **MEET & GREET with the AVENGER**

- **Paris, Salon de la Plongée, 9-12 January 2015, stand B25**
- **Düsseldorf, Boot, 17-25 January 2015, stand 03/F14**



## WHY IS THE AVENGER YOUR CHOICE ?

The AVENGER has a clean and simple DIR harness with the necessary D-rings and crotch strap evidently. This harness can easily be adjusted both on the attachment points on the back as on the waist, without the complexity of many other SM sets. This makes the AVENGER an excellent set for e.g. teaching as it is the easiest and fastest adjustable SM on the market. The AVENGER is a real “plug and play” system. Because the webbing for shoulders and waist are separate they can be different in thickness, flexibility in this way offering a lot of possibilities to customize your comfort level.

The harness and bladder act as 1 unit when assembled. This allows for super easy getting in and out of the set.

Under the bladder of the AVENGER there are 4 fixed weight pockets which can hold up to a total of 10 kg. The position of this weight pockets, slightly more downwards and outwards, offers a more streamlined profile compared to sets which have the weights on top of the spine. Putting these fixed weight pockets more downwards also gives a much better trim as the weight of the tank valves are compensated better in that way. A little more weight downwards will also help a lot of dry suit divers getting the perfect trim. If 10 kg is not enough, 2 more trim pockets can be added, left and right, to the waist belt. These pockets come in 2 sizes: 2 kg each or 4.5 kg each. So no more need to attach weights with tie-wraps on pieces of the harness everywhere.

The AVENGER’s bladder went through a few changes too. The inflator corrugated hose on the bladder can be repositioned coming from either the right or the left. The other port than can be used as dump valve or OPV. On the lower part of the bladder an extra dump valve is added. The position of this extra dump valve is in the arched, thus lowest, part of the back and doesn’t hinder while going through restrictions etc. The highest section of the bladder has been cut a bit so not to increase the divers profile. The trim pocket in this section has also been removed for the same reason.

The waist belt is also separately adjustable from the shoulder straps. Again, this allows for quick adjustments when needed. The waist belt comes standard with the extra hard webbing, allowing for easy adjustment of the sliding D-rings while diving in order to maintain the perfect trim for the tanks. The waist belt attaches to the bladder much more to the inside, allowing to move the sliding D-ring much more backwards. This can come in handy when diving with heavier steel tanks for example. This way of attaching the waist belt to the bladder allows the bladder to better wrap around the diver and as a result is more streamlined than most other SM sets.

The AVENGER comes with a beaver tail which can be removed. The beaver tail with the 3 sectioned fixed D-rings is preferred by many SM divers diving with steel tanks, but is also a handy storage point for your extra gear, pony bottle, battery pack, .... With the beaver tail detached, the holes can be used to attach a battery pack, your pouch with extra gear, etc.

Attaching the cylinders depends on your personal choice and sometimes also on the tanks used (heavy steel vs aluminum) and can be done either with a floating bungee or fixed bungee with bolt snap. Both items come with the kit.

... SM diving made easy, clean and simple ...

**SIDE 16**  
**AVENGER**