English



Invention of the Aqualung

For centuries human beings have been fascinated with the concept of being able to "breathe" underwater while exploring the deep blue sea.



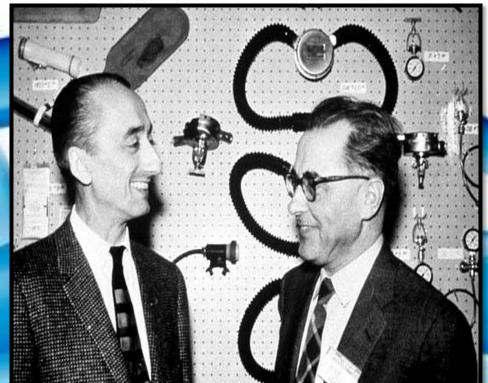
but the technology progressed and began to invent new equipment

- Air pump, created in 1771 by John Smeaton;
- A breathing belt, invented in 1825 by William James;
- Underwater breathing systems created in 1828 by John Deane and Charles Deane;

- A self-contained underwater breathing unit created by Henry Fleuss in 1873;
- And a breathing system for the US military designed by Christian Lambertson in 1939.

Shortly thereafter in 1943, Jacques-Yves Cousteau and Émile Gagnan invented a system that would revolutionize the world of deep-sea exploration and push diving into the mainstream.





The system they developed is known as the "Aqualung", which was registered under the Aqualung Diving Equipment Patent #2,485,039.



The story of the Aqua-Lung goes back to World War II.

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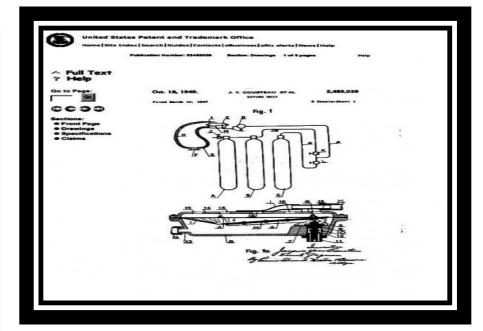
In June 1943 on a small beach of the Riviera, Jacques-Yves Cousteau wearing rubber fins, shouldered the new completely autonomous diving gear.

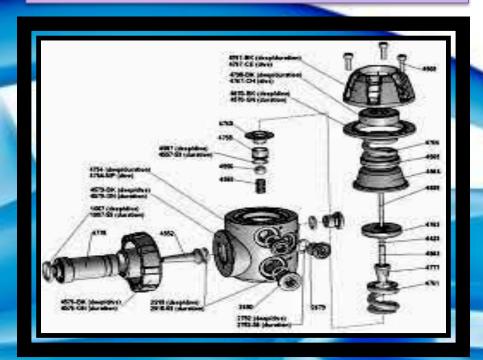






 There was one problem: the continuous flow of air limited how long the device could be used.





 During the war, the solution was born in Paris as the Germans requisitioned automobile gas. Cousteau modified the regulator, adapted it and made it the crowning piece of his Self-Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus (SCUBA), the Aqua-Lung.

