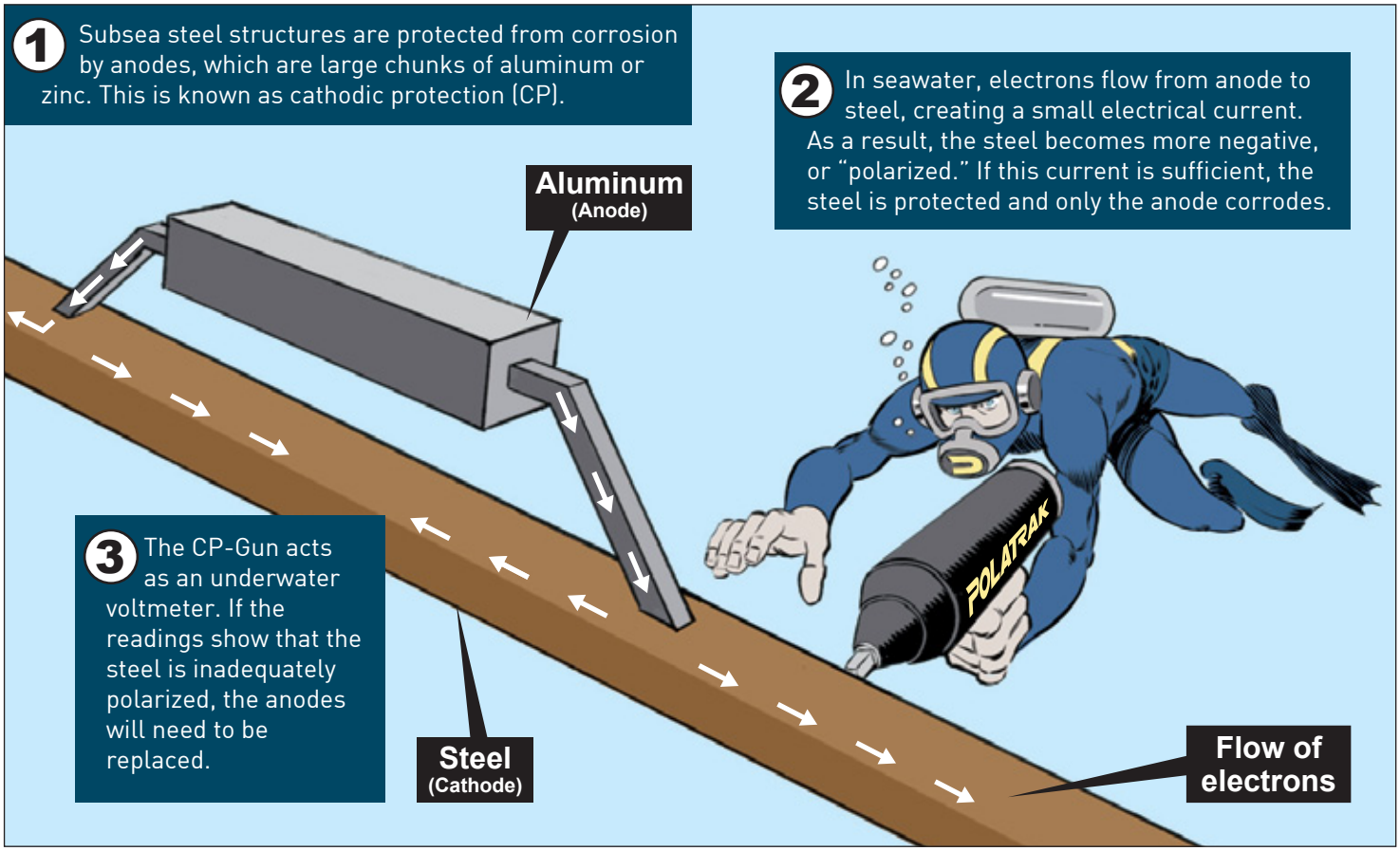
POLATRAK®

WHAT IS A CP-GUN USED FOR?

1 Subsea steel structures are protected from corrosion by anodes, which are large chunks of aluminum or zinc. This is known as cathodic protection (CP).

2 In seawater, electrons flow from anode to steel, creating a small electrical current. As a result, the steel becomes more negative, or "polarized." If this current is sufficient, the steel is protected and only the anode corrodes.



3 The CP-Gun acts as an underwater voltmeter. If the readings show that the steel is inadequately polarized, the anodes will need to be replaced.

WHY ARE THERE TWO NUMBERS DISPLAYED?

It's two meters measuring the same thing; the numbers should match. That way, if one electrode stops working, the diver can still complete the survey.

WHAT DO THE NUMBERS MEAN?

Readings are displayed for the spot where the CP-Gun's tip stabs the steel. These numbers – called "potentials" – show whether the steel in that area is protected:

Over -1100 mV	Anode potential
-950 mV to -1100 mV	Very good protection
-850 mV to -950 mV	Good
-800 mV to -850 mV	Okay
-700 mV to -800 mV	Bad
-650 mV to -700 mV	No protection

Low readings mean that the sacrificial anodes need replacement. Without replacement, the structure will corrode until it's unusable.

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