First person in Australia saved from drowning by a Computer drowning detection system

For the first time in Australia, the innovative Poseidon system, a computer-aided drowning detection system, helped rescue a man who was at extreme risk of drowing due to an epileptic fit at the Stanhope Leisure Centre, Blacktown.

March 20th Stanhope Leisure Centre, Blacktown - Real time picture recorded by the Poseidon system

The computervision drowning detection system POSEIDON was able to detect the man drowning at the Blacktown Stanhope swimming pool on March 20th at 01:38 pm. The man in his 40's had sunk to the bottom of the pool after suffering an alleged epileptic seizure.

This technology is currently installed in more than 220 pools in Europe, America and Japan, and is now becoming a standard of care for public pool safety. 25 people are able to thank the Poseidon system for saving their lives.

Is technology the answer to Australia's alarming drowning statistics? The National Drowning Report, released by the Royal Life Saving Society found that in 2012, approximately 300 Australians lost their lives due to drowning.

The Stanhope Leisure Centre in Blacktown is the first Australian swimming pool to be equipped with this ground-breaking computer vision system to prevent drowning casualties.

Lifeguards on duty at Blacktown pool were alerted by the Poseidon system that there was a person in sever distress and they were able to pull the man out of the pool and begin CPR. The man was able to recover poolside, and leave the centre unassisted.

The Poseidon system is a computer-aided system dedicated to assit lifeguards : it sends them alerts on a real-time basis and is able to give them the exact coordinates and location of the victim in the pool.

The aim of this technology is to minimize the immersion time for the victims, in order to prevent brain damages or fatalities.

About Poseidon

Poseidon integrates state-of-the-art technologies in computer vision and aquatic image processing and is the result of a close cooperation between its highly qualified R&D engineers and some of the leading European research laboratories. The Poseidon system is based on a network of overhead or underwater cameras connected to a computer equipped with the Poseidon software. It analyzes the trajectories of the swimmers and sends an alert to lifegards when a swimmer is in trouble. Poseidon is an intelligent technical solution that helps lifeguards save precious seconds.