



**HEARTSTART DEFIBRILLATORS  
FOR SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL  
AIRPORT**

**First Aid Training Services - Australia** this month was awarded the role of Emergency Care trainers to the Sydney International Airport. The company supplied Laerdal Heartstart Forerunner Defibrillators and delivered training to over 200 staff throughout the terminal. This resulted in staff from Sydney Airports Corporation, Qantas, Aqis, Garuda Indonesia, Air Vietnam, British Airways and others receiving nationally accredited certificates for Life Support (160), Advanced Resuscitation (25) and Defibrillation (15)



*The Heartstart FR Defibrillator. This is the type of Defibrillator now used by Qantas, Ansett and Air Services Australia's Airport Rescue and Fire Fighters.*

**First Aid Training Services - Australia** managing director, Charles Makray said " We were chosen because we had a proven track record, already being the largest provider of this type of specialised training in Australia. We also had nationally recognised training organisation status and quality assurance".

**A tourist's saviour**

When Michael Merriman decided to go for some parasailing at Green Island he didn't expect it to turn out such an exciting day.

Mike McCarthy from Great Diving Adventures was called to the distressed wife of John who told Mike that her husband was having "a turn". Mike's Rescue Medical Technician skills came in handy as he started to assess Michael. Within moments Mike had assessed the patient as suffering from a suspected heart attack. Mike was just about to call for back up when John collapsed into cardiac arrest. Mike immediately swung into action with CPR knowing that Michael's heart had stopped pumping. Mike was immediately assisted by doctor who happened to be there. Within two minutes the Defibrillation Unit had arrive and was connected to Michael's chest. Just as they were about to analyse Michael's heart rhythm, a pulse was detected. Minutes later Michael regained consciousness and was talking with his saviours.

Michael was later diagnosed in hospital as having had a heart attack which led to his cardiac arrest.

This looks like one of those cases were the patient's heart had not quite got to fibrillation thanks to the quick actions of a well trained technician.

Mike said later " without the medical technician skills and the constant 3 monthly retraining I receive through my company's emergency care program the outcome could of been very different. This case shows the importance of quick assessment and having the right equipment such as a defibrillator on hand"

Michael Merriman is home in England leading a normal life thanks to the team at Great Adventures.

**All aboard for  
Heartstart  
defibrillator**



In recent months, Ansett have purchased 96 Laerdal Heartstart FR Defibrillators for use on their fleet of aircraft.

This follows the pioneering lead Qantas took some time ago having recognised the need for the product to improve a person's chance of survival in the case of cardiac arrest during flights or in the terminals.

Both Qantas and Ansett aim to have defibrillators not only on board but at all terminals.

It's becoming painfully apparent that waiting for an ambulance no longer is acceptable, as the time taken to arrive on the scene is longer than the patient's heart can afford to wait.

Did you know that Cairns, has probably more defibrillators in workplaces than any other part of Australia

*Written by Charles Makray,  
managing director*

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