blended lifeguarding? let us explain...

Have you ever been looking for a word or a key phrase to describe something, but just couldn't quite grab the right terminology from your memory banks or creative thinking to 'tick the box'?

Here is my definition of what *Blended Lifeguarding* means:

Blended Lifeguarding is a technique which combines the traditional methods of pool supervision, safety and rescue with technology driven submersion detection and drowning prevention systems.

This creates a working practice which harmonises the best capabilities of each to produce a safer swimming environment for all.

It really does not take much imagination to realise that we shouldn't separate the two resources that we can have on poolside i.e. well trained lifeguards and submersion detection technology. There is a natural symbiotic relatiiosnship to be had here!

Gary Johnson from 'See Clearly Now' in Australia commented:

"Doing CPR is a lottery. You can do everything right and still lose a life, you could do everything wrong and save a life. The one thing we do know is that the sooner we start CPR, the more likely it is that the person will make a recovery.

So where ever we rely on bare human detection, we'll have fatal and non-fatal incidents at public swimming facilities. If we're serious about protecting swimmers, protecting lifeguards and protecting industry professionals then blended lifeguarding needs to be a consideration. The more affordable these serious technologies become the more difficult it will be to demonstrate and develop due diligence without them."

Pool supervision and the safety of swimmers shouldn't come down to a choice between Lifeguards and Technology. It shouldn't be a question of which solution to adopt but instead it should be a question of how to adopt both solutions in perfect harmony.

How can we make best use of our Lifeguards abilities?

How can we make best use of the technology available?

How can we best integrate our Lifeguards and Technology?

My hope is that we can promote the concept of 'Blended Lifeguarding' further and that it will become an accepted working terminology and methodology from now and into the future.



PAUL BROWN - DIRECTOR

With over 30 years experience in the leisure industry within the field of pool construction and refurbishment, Paul will project manage your installation and ensure that it occurs safely, on time, in budget and to our own assured high standards.



DANIEL COLLIER - CONTRACTS MANAGER

Daniel is a 2012 graduate from the University of Leeds with an MEng in Civil and Environmental Engineering. He was employed by the Environment Agency for six years before joining Poolview. Daniel brings a different perspective and drive to Poolview and as well as being our key contact for all installations, he will focus



on the high quality and timely contract delivery, alongside the Health, Safety, Environment and Wellbeing of both the business and workforce.

CHRIS DAY - DIRECTOR

Chris has over 20 years experience in the field of electronics and has been at the forefront of developing, manufacturing and installing underwater camera systems over the last decade. Currently driving forward the technological development of our Poolview system whilst maintaining the ethos that the Lifeguard is central and an essential element within the system.



ROBIN McGLOUGHLIN - DIRECTOR

Entering the Leisure industry in 1983, Robin has experienced many of the trials and tribulations encountered when managing busy leisure facilities and departments. Now a recognised contributor and industry expert within the field of Drowning Prevention Technology and Safer Swimming Systems. Robin is your first point of call for any queries.





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BLENDED LIFEGUARDING

combining traditional and assured lifequarding skills with technology



POOLVIEW PLUS with iris software™ ASSISTED LIFEGUARD TECHNOLOGY FOR THE DETECTION OF SUBMERSION EVENTS IN SWIMMING POOLS

Poolview Ltd has designed, manufactured and produced a new PROACTIVE and REACTIVE software and hardware system for detecting submersion incidents in swimming pools.

The PROACTIVE component:

The concept of proactive lifequarding is all about early intervention and where possible preventing accidents from developing to a critical stage.

Using our tried and tested Poolview architecture, our new system feeds through to a monitor positioned either next to a Lifeguard on poolside or in an incident management area, such as reception. Images from the eight strategically located underwater pool cameras are clearly displayed on the monitor, delivering 100% below water visibility. This provides a world first real time view of what's happening in a pool, below the surface, something even the best lifeguards struggle to achieve, due to variables such as glare, reflection and turbulence. The clarity of these images enables lifeguards or first responders to track swimmers across the whole breadth and depth of the pool in an ordered and timely manner.

In pools which are lifequarded, very little changes in terms of scanning and responding to accidents, as the system is designed to fit in with current working practices. Lifequards can check the images on the monitor and scan the surface of the water as required to ensure the constant supervision of swimmers. Critically, the benefit of this system is the additional essential vision it displays to lifequards, which helps them form judgements and intervene early in situations which may otherwise not be recognised until it is perhaps too late. Lifeguards are therefore proactively supervising their zones, and importantly are still very much in control with the ability to make informed decisions about when to intervene and/or conduct a rescue.

The REACTIVE component:

Each system and therefore lifeguard or first responder is further supported by **Poolview PLUS™**; the artificial intelligence feature built into the system's software. Poolview PLUS™ subtly tracks each individual swimmer, continually monitoring their activity until it detects a possible drowning incident developing.

At this point **Poolview PLUS™** alerts the lifeguard or first responder to the potential drowning incident. In the first instance this is visually and audibly depicted as a 'yellow alert' which without human intervention or change in the swimmer's behaviour will develop into a 'red alert', via the

In this instance the lifeguard or first responder has two reactive options:

- 1. Acknowledge and silence the alarm
- 2. Acknowledge and escalate the alarm implementing the facility's Emergency Action Plan (EAP); triggering the rescue of the swimmer.

Should for any reason a lifeguard or first responder miss a 'red alert' given off by the system, Poolview PLUS™ will enter a fully automatic mode which cannot be silenced without critical intervention such as a rescue being undertaken. This additional layer of protection is a feature unique to **Poolview PLUS TM**, developed to help provide addtional support to operators, lifeguards and members of the public.

The automatic mode is seen as a last resort and not as a replacement for human supervision and interaction with the system as described above. Reliance on fully automatic mode may result in a delay to any required critical intervention.

Poolview PLUS™ architecture and software is the perfect match for lifeguards. Blending lifeguard skills with this technology gives swimming pool supervision a whole new superpower!





Prevent a drowning and prepare for a drowning; Do everything in your power to prevent it, Then prepare your team like it is inevitable." \rangle/\rangle **Right** Directions every one







we are the industry benchmark...

"Places Leisure enjoy working in partnership with Poolview Limited to jointly make the pools they manage with their local authority partners as safe as possible for both swimmers and staff using reliable technology. Their system has allowed us to further demonstrate our commitment to the HSE's 'Plan, Do, Check, Act' approach to successful Safety management using our 'SAFE Places Leisure' quality management system."

Andy Read - Former Head of Safety

Places leisure

"Robin's opening line in most public speaking event, refers to Poolview's underlying ethos as a Lifeguarding company who develop technology and not visa-versa. Poolview continue to develop systems to meet the needs of Lifeguards and Operators. They have a refreshing, informed approach towards training, managing aspirations and getting things right. Their knowledge, passion and determination to make swimming pools safer is why we continue to work and evolve with them. A great company, with great foresight and an overall desire to keep our industry moving forwards!"

Helen Dixon - Head of Training and Standards

Right Directions

"I have been working with the Poolview team since 2013 and their professional expertise in the assisting of lifeguarding, is second to none. Everyone Active have installed in excess of 45 "Poolview Iris" detection systems, with a further 8 planned for this this year. Poolview planning and after service makes operating the systems as easy as possible for our sites. Water quality and clarity is a key part of ensuring the detection systems operate as efficiently as possible, and the Poolview team have assisted in ensuring we are managing our pool water turbidity efficiently to maintain solid detection."

George Lampshire - Group Health & Safety Manager Everyone Active

"Poolview Limited in my opinion are the leading experts within the field of Drowning Detection Technology in the UK. Their knowledge and expertise is second to none and the speed at which they are developing Poolview Iris in collaboration with the Industry is quite remarkable. We have rolled out "Iris" throughout our entire Warner Hotels group and are absolutely delighted with the results."

Craig Valentine - Health & Safety Manager

Bourne Leisure

"We pride ourselves on our commitment to providing exceptional focus on the safety and the well being of all our customers and swimmers. Poolview has greatly enhanced our pool supervision, improved staff vigilance and professionalism and ultimately created a safer swimming environment. From the initial consultation through to installation, Poolview Ltd fully understood our specific requirements and subsequent they were able to deliver a system tailored to our needs."

Derek Park- Safety & Quality Manage North Lanarkshire Council





