

## PRESS KIT

DAN Europe (Divers Alert Network Europe) is an international non-profit medical and research organization dedicated to the safety and health of recreational scuba divers.

### Mission

Founded in 1983, DAN Europe exists to provide expert information and advice for the benefit of its members and the diving public. DAN Europe:

- Provides emergency medical advice and assistance for underwater diving injuries and works to prevent injuries and to promote diving safety
- Promotes and supports underwater diving research and education
- Strives to provide the most accurate, up-to-date and unbiased information on issues of common concern to the diving public

### Vision

DAN Europe vision is to be the most recognized and trusted organizations worldwide in the fields of diver safety and emergency services, health, research, and education by its members, instructors, sponsors, and recreational diving community at large.

DAN Europe is approaching 100,000 members!

### History of DAN

DAN Europe, DAN America, DAN Japan, DAN Asia, DAN Southern Africa. Retracing the history of a worldwide and still growing organisation. Founded in 1983 as International Diving Assistance (IDA) by dr. Alessandro Marroni, DAN Europe was the first 24 hour diving emergency assistance service, set up as a membership organization, with specific insurance benefits since the very beginning.

During the same period, in the year 1980, on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean, DAN America — known then as the Diving Accident Network — formed at Duke University Medical Center, USA, under the guidance of prof. Peter B. Bennet.

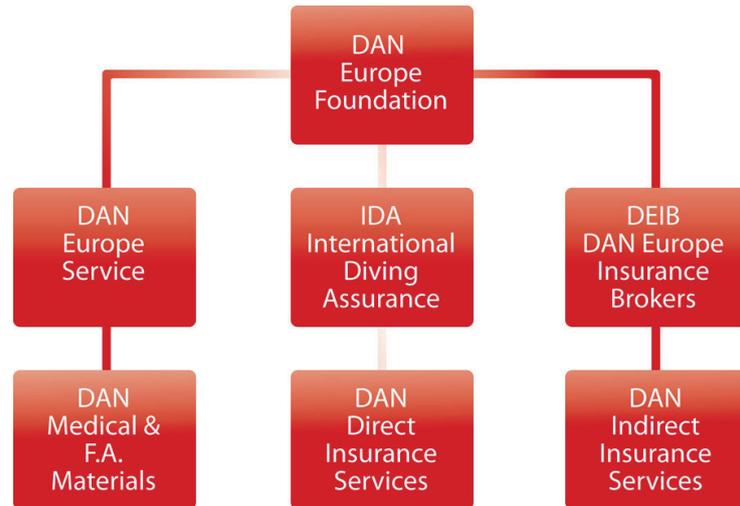
In 1984 the Diver Emergency Service (DES) was started in Australia and New Zealand by drs. Des Gorman and “Fred” Gilligan. and in 1987 the Civil Alert Network (CAN) began assisting diving emergencies in Japan, under the guidance of prof. Yoshihiro Mano of the University of Tokyo Medical School. Although independently and not yet cooperating, the four organisations were supporting diving safety by providing similar 24-hour Diving Emergency Hotlines and non-emergency Diving Medicine Information Services. In case of a diving accident, qualified Hyperbaric and Diving Medicine Specialists would be available to assist the injured diver and to consult with local emergency medical personnel to coordinate medical evacuation and treatment and to provide the best care possible.

Other important scopes were also pursued by the four organisations in similar

ways and with surprisingly similar results: the regular collection of recreational diving accident data, or the elaboration of periodical statistical reports on recreational diving accidents.

The need for an international organisation that would be available to all divers, wherever they dived around the world, became increasingly apparent and, during a historical meeting at DAN Headquarters in Durham, N.C., USA, in February 1991, the process to form an International DAN was started. The four existing organisations decided to adopt the common name of DAN and DAN Europe, DAN Australia and DAN Japan became parts of the International DAN (IDAN) organisation, together with DAN USA. DAN Southern Africa joined the IDAN in 1996.

### The DAN Europe Group



### DAN Europe Foundation Core Actions

- \* 24/7 worldwide medical assistance in the event of a diving and non-diving emergencies
- \* Co-ordination of hyperbaric and medical services
- \* Assisting Hyperbaric Treatment Centers worldwide through RCAPP
- \* Diving and non-diving medical consultancy
- \* Referrals to medical Specialists and Institutions
- \* Tailoring diving-specific insurance covers
- \* Diving Safety and Medical Research
- \* Diving Safety and Medical Education
- \* Expert Diving Legal Assistance through the DAN Legal Network

### The Foundation owns and controls

IDA Ltd and DEIB Ltd. These two specific companies, registered in all European Union, EEA, as well as in several extra-European countries, handle and guarantee the best diving insurance services to DAN Europe members worldwide.

DAN Europe Service Srl. This company produces and markets Diving Safety, Training, Educational, and First Aid materials.

### Regions covered

Regions of coverage include geographical Europe, the countries of the Mediterranean Basin, the countries on the shores of the Red Sea, the Middle East including the Persian Gulf, the countries on the shores of the Indian Ocean north of the Equator and West of India and Sri Lanka, as well as the

related overseas territories, districts, and protectorates.

### Alarm Centres

DAN operates through an International Network of Diving Emergency Hotlines, staffed by specially trained Emergency and Medical Operators and backed-up by a Network of Diving-Hyperbaric Specialists on call. Diving Accident management and data collection criteria are standardized. A list of over 500 hyperbaric centres and of diving-hyperbaric medicine specialists is regularly checked and updated by the International DAN organisations worldwide. The five main DAN 24/7 Alarm Centers are based in:

Australia  
Europe  
Japan  
United States  
South Africa

In the DAN Europe territory DAN has activated a Network of Regional Alarm Centers corresponding to the different linguistic areas, directed by leading specialists, working in co-ordination with the DAN Europe Hotline and the IDAN Network. To continually ensure an adequate assistance, especially in isolated and remote parts of the world, DAN teams up with various international emergency medical services and rescue groups in order to guarantee its members, in any circumstance, an adequate rescue, the necessary Medical-Hyperbaric treatment and eventual repatriation for medical emergencies.

### Corporate Responsibility

At DAN Europe corporate responsibility means growing and developing with a long term vision and in harmony with the environment and the human community.

Our engagement covers many fields:

Support to injured divers and their families in case of significant financial difficulties (Claudius Obermaier Charity Fund).

Propeller injury campaign.

Safeguard of the underwater environment in cooperation with Greenpeace (Diver's Environmental Survey Project - Italy & Mediterranean).

Safety and quality assessment for diving centres.

Safety and quality assessment for hyperbaric facilities.