

Milan Bergamo Airport becomes “heart safe”

The Milan Bergamo Airport has become “**heart safe**”, thanks to the installation of 14 defibrillators, 11 of which are inside the airport. This initiative, carried out by SACBO in collaboration with AREU Lombardia, originated from the desire to equip airport areas, in particular the passenger terminal, with devices that allow for the timely intervention in case of heart attacks.

These are AEDs (Automated External Defibrillators), that is, semiautomatic devices that can be used easily and practically for quick intervention. The defibrillators, thanks to their automatic function and the equipped audio guide, can be used in emergencies both by emergency responders (**activated by dialling 112 emergency number**) as well as anyone who recognises a cardiac event and wishes to intervene, thus providing first-aid measures in a more timely manner.

The choice to install the 14 defibrillators was made favouring coverage of the areas of the airport with the highest passenger flow, as well as some areas that are located very far from the terminal. Aside from the 11 units installed within the airport, one has been placed in the runway lights power plant, one in the north maintenance area and a third in the management offices in Grassobbio.

The defibrillators are located in spots that are easily identifiable by all passengers and airport employees, visible by the sign that displays the device’s symbol and the initials “**DAE**” (in Italian, Defibrillatore Automatico Esterno).

Each unit is stored in an appropriate case that has an instruction panel displaying (in two languages) an overview of correct usage instructions for the defibrillator. Upon opening the case, an acoustic alarm is activated that lasts about 30 seconds. Along with installation of the defibrillators, training will be provided for personnel who will be appointed for use of the devices, and who will possess a BLS (Basic Life Support Defibrillation) certificate.

Grassobbio (BG), 13 December 2016