

## **Boston Properties AED Program**

Each year more than 350,000 Americans die from sudden cardiac arrest (SCA). SCA is a condition where the heart misfires in a rhythm called ventricular fibrillation. This rhythm can be fatal within a few minutes if left untreated. Historically, CPR was the only treatment for SCA. Now a technology is available to treat victims of sudden cardiac arrest - an automated external defibrillator (AED). These devices are simple to operate, simple to maintain, and very effective in the treatment of SCA.

Automated external defibrillators are becoming quite common in the workplace. State and Federal legislation has been passed to promote the use of AEDs at the workplace and to protect users from liability.

Boston Properties is pleased to participate in this life safety initiative. In 2007, after careful consideration, we contracted with (i) ZOLL Medical Corporation (“ZOLL”) to purchase AEDs and (ii) En-Pro Management Inc. (“En-Pro”) to provide an automated external defibrillator program which is designed for trained responders to provide assistance in cardiac emergencies in the first floor lobby of buildings controlled by the building owner. This program has been designed to comply with legal requirements including training, refresher training, and a variety of additional services. This program has been designed to obtain the benefit of Good Samaritan Laws which provide protection from liability for trained users of AEDs under an AED program.

**THE BOSTON PROPERTIES AED PROGRAM IS NOT DESIGNED TO RESPOND TO CARDIAC EMERGENCIES IN TENANT CONTROLLED SPACES OR IN COMMON AREAS OTHER THAN FIRST FLOOR ENTRANCE LOBBIES.** En-Pro has determined the number and location of AED units based on criteria established by the American Heart Association to be able to reach a victim in the first floor entrance lobbies. A responder will not be able to reach a victim in other areas of the building within the time period determined by the American Heart Association to provide effective assistance. In addition, even in the first floor entrance lobbies a trained responder may not be available to respond.

If a cardiac emergency occurs in a tenant space a responder trained under the Boston Properties AED Program may be able to respond if available, **HOWEVER, TENANTS SHOULD BE AWARE THAT ANY ASSISTANCE IN A TENANT SPACE MAY NOT BE EFFECTIVE BECAUSE OF THE TIME NECESSARY TO REACH THE TENANT SPACE.** However, ZOLL is available to provide an AED Program to cover tenant spaces. Any tenant who is interested in implementing their own AED Program may contact David Fogg of ZOLL at 800-348-9011 extension 9748 or [dfogg@zoll.com](mailto:dfogg@zoll.com). While the placement of AEDs in the first floor entrance lobbies is a great start, we hope tenants will consider implementing a program in their company’s space.

Attached are some frequently asked questions regarding the Boston Properties AED Program.

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