

## Emergency Care Specialist Appointed Chief Medical Officer by Mondial Assistance

**(Brisbane) 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2005** – Mondial Assistance has appointed Dr Steve Rashford as the company's new chief medical officer, a role that will involve the critical care and medical repatriation specialist overseeing all medical operations undertaken by Mondial Assistance Australia both domestically and overseas from 4 July 2005.

Previously the statewide director for clinical co-ordination and patient retrieval services with Queensland Health, Dr Rashford has extensive experience in the fields of multi-casualty incident management, critical care and medical repatriation within the South East Asia-region.

His previous role required him to directly supervise the incident management of up to 25 major cases every day across the state. He brings more than 15 years medical experience to the position, having worked in a variety of emergency and trauma-related roles both in Australia and internationally.

His responsibilities as head of the medical department at Mondial Assistance will cover the management of all medical staff and ultimate co-ordination of medical assistance. He will also manage the roster of doctors that are on call 24 hours-a-day, seven days-a-week, to provide total coverage and retrieval services on behalf of Mondial Assistance clients.

In addition, Dr Rashford will establish an honorary board of review, which will operate independently of Mondial Assistance, carrying responsibility for ensuring the highest standards of quality control are maintained in every health-related case.

Holding the office of chairman of the medical advisory council for the Queensland Ambulance Service, Dr Rashford is a regular and experienced guest speaker at medical forums on disaster management and aeromedical retrieval medicine. He also holds a private pilot's licence.

Peter Edwards, managing director of Mondial Assistance Australia, said of the appointment: "Steve comes to us with an exceptional amount of experience in the field of emergency medicine and I am extremely pleased that he will be joining us. Mondial Assistance is one of the world's leading providers of medical assistance services and it is right that we have a professional of Steve's calibre heading our medical operations here in Australia."

### MEDIA CONTACTS

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