Rescue out of the Riesending Cave

View into Operations Control

Nik Klever
Vice-Chairman Bergwacht Bayern
Untersberg in the Berchtesgaden Alps

- Strub Barracks
- Fire Station
- Riesending Entrance
- First Control on a Greenfield
Cave Rescue Operation „Riesending“

Eintritt (1843 m)

Einstieg Riesending-Schachthöhle (auf 1843 m)

Rettungskräfte bringen den Verletzten ans Tageslicht

Scene of Accident (app. 1020m)

Ungefähr Lage der Unglücksstelle (8. Juni)
Sunday, June 8., 2014 at 01:30 accident and climb of the fellow from the scene of the accident up to mountain hut „Störhaus“

Sunday, June 8., 2014 at 14:28 incoming emergency call at rescue control centre Rosenheim and Traunstein

Thursday, June 19., 2014 at 12:19 patient is in the helicopter on the way to the hospital

11 days – 10 hours – 49 minutes
Operations Control Group
Communication
Transportation Logistics
Material Logistics
Logistics because of Medical Care
Logistics because of Weather
Logistics at the Cave Entrance
Press and Media Interest
• We recognized from the beginning that the public has a great interest in this rescue operation and therefore we informed offensively. In the 12 days we have sent **23 Press Releases** and held a press conference nearly every day and in the last week **up to 3 press conferences** every day.

• At last we installed an accreditation for the press and set up a SMS distribution to all accredited media representatives, to keep them informed rapidly.

• For security reasons we ordered a professional mountaineering film team for the last steps of coming out of the cave and offered this material to all media representatives.
Local Cooperation
Helicopters
We had helicopter support from the helicopter squadrons of the federal and state police, the German Federal Armed Forces and to bridge a gap also from Austrian flying police.

Accommodation and Catering
The accommodation of all rescue team members took place in the Strub barracks of the German Federal Armed Force, the catering was done by the German Army, the Bavarian Red Cross and by the Malteser.

Operational Control
The operational control was carried out at the fire station Berchtesgaden, which we were able to fully use these 12 days. The colleagues of firefighters gave us an outstanding support and provided us also with the vehicle hall for press conferences.
International Cooperation
202 Rescue Team Members in the Cave

- Bergwacht Bayern (Bavaria) 27 cave rescuers
- Österreichische Höhlenrettung (Austria) 42 cave rescuers
- Speleo-Secours Schweiz (Switzerland) 24 cave rescuers
- Corpo Nazionale Soccorso Alpino e Speleologico (Italy) 89 cave rescuers
- Hrvatska Gorska Služba Spašavanja (Croatia) 20 cave rescuers
641 Rescue Team Members of Mountain and Cave Rescue

- Bergwacht Bayern (Bavaria) 404 members
- Österreichische Höhlenrettung (Austria) 60 members
- Speleo-Secours Schweiz (Switzerland) 28 members
- Corpo Nazionale Soccorso Alpino e Speleologico (Italy) 115 members
- Bergrettungsdienst im Alpenverein Südtirol (Italy) 8 members
- Hrvatska Gorska Služba Spašavanja (Croatia) 26 members

+ additional members of

- Fire Brigades,
- Police,
- Army,
- Bavarian Red Cross,
- German Red Cross,
- Malteser,
- and others
Rescue
Postprocessing with Several Operations on Classification, Clearing and Protection of the Cave
Conclusion
extreme support from the international rescue teams
extreme support from local and regional governmental organizations
victim was very familiar with the extreme environment
victim was close to a lethal brain injury but not fully
best weather conditions
all decision are taken carefully