

SARCA PLAYS A MAJOR PART IN SAVING LIVES IN THE TSUNAMI

Jacana battling the Tsunami - Karon Beach 26.12.04



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acana was anchored in sand at Karon Beach Phuket about 300 metres from shore in about 8-9 metres of water with 33mtr of chain out.

We were anchored directly in the path of the Tsunami the worst hit part of Karon beach. Patong is the next major bay north of us. W knew it was catastrophic when the restaurants from shore came past us and all we could hear were screams for help. Not long after people came washing past us in a whirlpool of water. The many surges kept changing our anchor depth from 4 to 14.6 metres. Our SARCA anchor held fast thru the first wave. We decided not to move because there were people in the water who needed help after be ing sucked out in the back surge.

The back surge bought a carpet of debris. The longer we stayed the thicker the debris. The back surges created large whirlpools with vortexes at the centre. Some were clockwise, some anti-clockwise. Jacana spun in the whirlpools but again the SARCA held fast. The beach that started off 300 metres away came reaching out to us in the back surge. It got to less than 100 metres. Not knowing how Tsunamis work we just had to hope it wouldn't get us before we could safely move. We tried to lower the tinny to assist people but it was hopeless as it became a fl ying missile. I hate jet skis but have new found respect; a brave young Thai man rescued a desperate naked German women via his jet ski and delivered her to us on the

boat; she wasn't far from gone. Their were two Thai men on jet skis who could get through the debris to the injured people. They were brave men who saved lives.

The third wave was the worst. The SARCA held thru all five we waves even with a palm free entangled in the chain. Because of the SARCA holding we were able to get the injured women on board and then later to hospital. We raised the anchor on the back surge of the fifth wave, then after cutting away the palm tree we slowly sailed out with the back surge and re anchored out of danger.

We were in constant view of our son who had come to visit us for christmas. He was staying at a hotel 300 metre from the beach. My son was on the 7th fl oor and viewed the whole thing he thought we were goners. He was going to come down to the beach in half an hour. What some parents put their kids through.

Two lots of our mates suffered damage to their yachts. One couple's boat is still on the rocks and the salvage company is having trouble raising it. But otherwise all yachties are healthy.

And as for the SARCA, I have owned it for four years and it's never let me down, it's a bloody good anchor, the sand and reef combina tion anchor.

Yours sincerely Dan Hellier.

THE SARCA ANCHOR STORY

SARCA anchors are designed in Australia and manufactured in Australia and New Zealand using top-quality 316 stainless steel or mild steel which has been hot-dip galvanised. The patented design is unique and revolutionary, offering superb holding power.

SARCA stands for Sand and Rock Combination Anchor. This type of anchor can be used successfully on a variety of bottom types, including mud, sand, gravel and rock, eliminating the need to carry two or more anchors to do the same job, SARCA incorporates an automatic reset trip re-release that offers you the highest rate of recovery from rocks. SARCA anchors are relatively light in weight and easy to handle. SARCA anchors are certified as high holding power anchors. Developed over a six year period with the aid of high tech computers along with feed back from commercial fishermen and boaters produced this unique design. Only then did SARCA release the product for general distribution. Intially they marketed just two anchor sizes, but demand was such that they quickly expanded to 13 anchor sizes to suit boats from ten feet right through to 200 tonnes.

SARCA anchors have passed survey in all Australian states and received New Zealand Marine Certification. New Zealand is notorious for its mix of seabed structure and difficult anchor holding condition.

SARCA anchors have been enthusiastically adopted by Coastguard, Police and Fisheries

Patrol vessels in Australia and New



Rex Francis inventor of the Sarca anchor receives the Industry Achiever Award 2004

Zealand, as well as by charter operators and other commercial boaters.

SARCA anchors have no lead in there design. A plus for the marine environment.

HOW THE SARCA BOAT ANCHOR WORKS

SARCA anchors will hold in a variety of bottoms and have been certified as high holding power anchors by the Victorian Marine Board, MSA witnessed by Loylds of London to comply with the USL code a testament to their efficiency.

ORIENTATION AND PENETRATION

The hoop on the rear of the anchor ensures that the **SARCA** rolls over in most situations. This allows the toe to be in its best possible position to penetrate the ocean floor.

There is less dragging of the anchor whilst the fl uke digs in. No more chain tangled around and between the flukes preventing the anchor from taking hold. **SARCA's** unique tangle-resistant design improves anchor safety. The **SARCA** has penetrating ability and holding power that has to be experienced to be believed.

The unique design of the **SARCA** creates a pumping action, which sinks the anchor deeper, and together with the **SARCA's** 360 °-pivoting action; makes the **SARCA** resistant to wind and tide changes. This

360° pivoting action along with **SARCA's** exceptional holding power have proven them as an excellent mooring, and with no lead to contaminate a plus for the marine environment. The **SARCA** covers all your anchoring needs and is ideal in tight situations or when sharing small inlets or coves with other vessels.

EXTREMELY EASY TO RETRIEVE IN MUD OR SAND

Just come directly above the **SARCA** and apply light and steady pressure. The **SARCA's** special slots allow a break in suction, which coupled with a long shank, means the **SARCA** is easy to free.

SARCA'S LATEST DEVELOPMENT

A trip release with automatic re-set. When anchoring in and around bommies, reef or coral the **SARCA** has less chance of getting stuck and will create less damage to the environment.



1. When retrieving your anchor from rock and reef, simply motor directly above and pull all the slack rope. Then release approx. $\frac{1}{2}$ metre of rope and tie off. 2. Motor your boat forward over the anchor. This lifts the rear resulting in a high recovery rate. The moment the anchor releases the stainless steel
D - shackle slides to the front of the anchors shank and resets.