

**ACTIVITY:** Fishing

**CASE:** GSAF 2008.01.27

**DATE:** Sunday January 27, 2008

**LOCATION:** The incident took place on board a boat 100 nautical miles from Queensland, Australia.

**NAME:** Jarryd Tinson

**DESCRIPTION:** He is a 20-year-old deckhand from Sydney. He had been working for the skipper, Mr. Whan, for about five years.

**BOAT:** An aluminium catamaran *Straight Shooter*.

#### **BACKGROUND**

**DISTANCE FROM SHORE:** 240 km east of Coolangatta.

**TIME:** 07h30



*Jarryd Tinson is put on a CareFlight helicopter after a mako shark bit him on his leg*

**NARRATIVE:** The incident took place onboard a boat that had been fishing for tuna and was on its return leg to Mooloolaba, on the Sunshine Coast.

Jarryd Tinson hauled the shark aboard the boat. When he accidentally stepped on its tail before attempting to gut it, the shark swung around and bit his right calf. A few other deckhands were on deck and tried to release the shark's jaws but when they could not, they cut off the shark's head.

**INJURY:** The shark's bite measured 20cm bite, and extended to the bone. Queensland Ambulance Paramedic Darrin Hatchman said, "The position of the bite was close to the back of his knee where you've got some major vessels and arteries running down there. If it had have been a couple of millimetres either way, it would have been a real mercy dash to stop him from bleeding out."

**FIRST AID:** Mr Whan bandaged up Mr Tinson's wound before calling 000 from the vessel's satellite phone. "He (Mr. Tinson) was fine once I gave him some painkillers," said Mr. Whan.

CareFlight staff pilot Adrian Park said his crew got the call for help about 07h30 but could not reach him until the vessel was brought closer to shore. They finally reached the boat, just east of the Gold Coast Seaway, about 10h40 and Mr Tinson was winched off the deck onto a helicopter. Intensive care paramedic Darrin Hatchman said the blood loss was minimal. The first-aid done at the scene



was very good. "He was stable, bandaged and waiting for me to come down. We were only on deck for about 14 seconds." Coast Authorities have praised the skill of the air ambulance helicopter pilot who managed to pluck the injured man from the deck of the fishing boat in three- to five-metre swells and take him to Gold Coast Hospital.

**TREATMENT:** The deckhand was flown to a hospital on the Gold Coast where he was listed in a stable condition the same night after undergoing emergency surgery. The man escaped with only 40 stitches in his leg and later said of the accident: "I wanted to get him first, before he got me".

**SPECIES:** All sources say the incident involved a mako shark. One source said the shark was three-metres in length and weighed 90-kilograms, while another said the shark was 10 feet in length and weighed 200 pounds. The shark was "killed, processed, packaged and destined for someone's dinner plate."

**SOURCES:** ABC News, January 27, 2007  
Goldcoast.com.au, January 28, 2008