

# October 2019

## AirWaves

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Hi << Test First Name >>

### **Serious accident involving Alex Yaschenko**

One of Australia's top paragliding competition pilots, Alex Yaschenko from Victoria has been seriously injured in a paragliding accident in Hunza, Pakistan.

The severity of the accident was such that Doctors have diagnosed Alex with tetraplegia.

Alex is a well-respected and skilled pilot and is renowned within the Australian

paragliding community. He has played a significant role in the flying careers of many pilots, as a mentor and friend.

Our thoughts are with Alex, his family and friends who have been by his side, both in Pakistan and supporting him from Australia in their generous efforts to get him home safely as soon as possible.

SAFA Operations Manager, Brett Coupland said Alex had taken out travel and medical expense insurance through SAFA's policies with Dual Australia.

"We are incredibly thankful to Dual Australia for all their arrangements on the ground, getting him safely transported to hospital, and for covering his repatriation costs".

"We also recognise and commend the heartfelt support from our members, across all disciplines, who have dug deep to support Alex, his family, and his ongoing recovery and rehabilitation. Alex has also had wonderful assistance in Australia from his immediate support team, who have worked tirelessly to get him back to Australia as soon as possible".

"Our thoughts are with Alex and his family during this difficult time. We wish him a safe and swift journey home and we are confident that the comfort he gains from reuniting with his family, friends and fellow pilots back in Australia, will greatly assist his recovery".

Due to the accident taking place overseas, local investigations are ongoing.

SAFA will be reviewing the accident over the coming weeks.

***Paul Green, President, SAFA***



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