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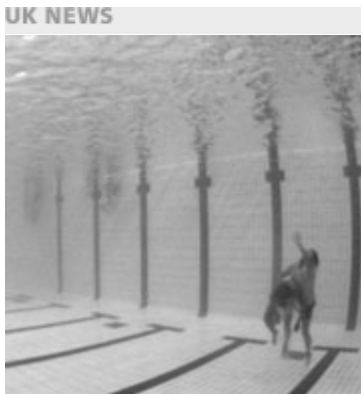
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Back to the surface

## GIRL'S HI-TECH RESCUE

A girl has become the first swimmer in Britain to be saved from drowning by hi-tech underwater safety cameras.

The 10-year-old girl fell unconscious after sinking into the deep end of Bangor Swimming Pool, in north Wales.

Within 40 seconds, one of four underwater safety cameras spotted the girl and alerted lifeguards via a pager message.

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A lifeguard dived into the water and pulled the girl to safety.

She was given mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and treated in hospital but has made a full recovery since the incident last week.

It is said to be the first time a UK swimmer has been saved by the camera safety system, called Poseidon.

The system, which was fitted to the Bangor pool in March 2003 at a cost of £65,000, involves eight overhead and four underwater cameras.

The technology can detect movement, trajectory and texture of underwater objects.

It then compares images to a database of thousands of examples of swimmers in trouble.

If it finds a match, it alerts lifeguards using a pager message which also displays a diagram showing the location of the stricken swimmer.

The system has been fitted to eight UK pools and 120 worldwide.

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Last Updated: 13:06 UK, Thursday September 01, 2005

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It'll turn out fine for most today, but northern Scotland will take while to dry up, and there'll be a few showers around. England will be noticeably less warm and humid than recently.

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