

AED Readiness Checks and Comprehensive Inspections Serve Different Purposes

WINDSOR LOCKS, CT, UNITED STATES, August 18, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- AED Service America, a nationwide provider specializing exclusively in compliant, onsite automated external defibrillator (AED) maintenance, management and deployment, is encouraging organizations to understand an important distinction in AED management: verifying that an AED displays a ready status is not necessarily the same as performing a comprehensive physical inspection.



AED maintenance/management in all 50 States

Modern AEDs perform automated self-tests and typically communicate their status through a visual readiness indicator. Confirming that indicator is an important component of routine AED monitoring. However, AED Service America says organizations should understand exactly what is—and is not—being examined during these checks.

“

AED manufacturers recommend an AED inspection is done only once annually. After that a visual verification check of the status indicator is the only recommendation after that done daily/weekly/monthly”

Douglas C. Comstock

“A green status indicator tells you what the AED is reporting. An inspection tells you what is actually there,” said Douglas Clydesdale Comstock, founder of AED Service America and a 20-year veteran of the AED industry. “Both have value, but they are not the same thing. If an organization is told its AED has been inspected, it should

know exactly what was physically checked, what was documented and what happens if something isn't right.”

A routine AED readiness verification may confirm that the device is present, accessible and displaying the manufacturer's appropriate readiness indicator. Depending on the program, additional visual items may also be checked.

A comprehensive onsite inspection goes considerably further.

Depending upon the AED model and the organization's program, a comprehensive inspection may include physically examining the AED for damage or contamination; verifying the device's readiness indicator; checking electrode pads and batteries, including expiration dates; confirming model and serial numbers; examining cables, connectors and accessories; reviewing rescue supplies; and evaluating the AED cabinet, signage and accessibility.

A comprehensive AED management program may also include reviewing manufacturer recalls, safety notices and corrective actions; identifying software or protocol updates; reviewing device age and end-of-life information; and documenting deficiencies requiring corrective action.

The distinction becomes particularly important for organizations managing AEDs across multiple facilities, campuses, states or countries where administrators may rely upon outside personnel to confirm the condition of equipment they rarely see themselves.

AED Service America recommends that organizations evaluating an AED maintenance program ask one fundamental question:

What exactly happens when someone physically visits and checks our AED?

Organizations should understand whether the service includes physically verifying pad and battery expiration dates, confirming device information, examining the AED and its accessories, reviewing manufacturer notifications, documenting findings and establishing a process for correcting deficiencies.



Onsite, Compliant AED maintenance and management in all 50 States across every major brand of AED.



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"The terminology matters less than the work being performed," Comstock said. "Calling something an inspection doesn't tell an organization how comprehensive that inspection actually is. The better question is: What did the person physically inspect and verify while standing in front of my AED?"

AED Service America also emphasizes that routine readiness checks and comprehensive inspections should not be viewed as competing concepts. Routine monitoring can provide an additional layer of oversight between more extensive physical inspections.

The company's objective is to encourage greater transparency so organizations can make informed comparisons when evaluating AED maintenance and management programs.

Each manufacturer recommends a true inspection is done only once annually and then daily, weekly and monthly verification checks by the AED owner to ensure the status indicator displays a green status indicator.

"Ultimately, the test of an AED program doesn't come when someone is standing in front of the device with a checklist," Comstock said. "It comes when someone collapses and another person reaches for that AED. At that moment, there are no second chances. Confidence at the Point of Rescue™ means knowing that someone has gone beyond simply seeing a green status indicator."

About AED Service America

AED Service America specializes exclusively in AED maintenance, management, compliance support, education and deployment. Based in Windsor Locks, Connecticut, the company provides onsite AED services nationwide, helping organizations maintain, document and manage AED programs with a focus on readiness at the point of rescue.

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