

A Simple System for Victim Removal From an Upper Story Window.

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the support of MCFRS Stations 1 & 12 C-shift
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The genesis of this concept was the Denver drill. If you are not familiar with the scenario, basically two firefighters try to get a third up and out of a window at the end of a narrow hallway. It's pretty hard for two people to do in a confined hallway. We thought there had to be a better way.

We also wanted to see if the Sling-Loop would provide a safe lifting harness as advertised. (It seems to perform very well.)

The following system provides an opportunity for firefighters outside to provide lifting assistance and then lower the firefighter to the ground.

Equipment needs: Life line, carabiner, Sling-Loop (optional), ladder

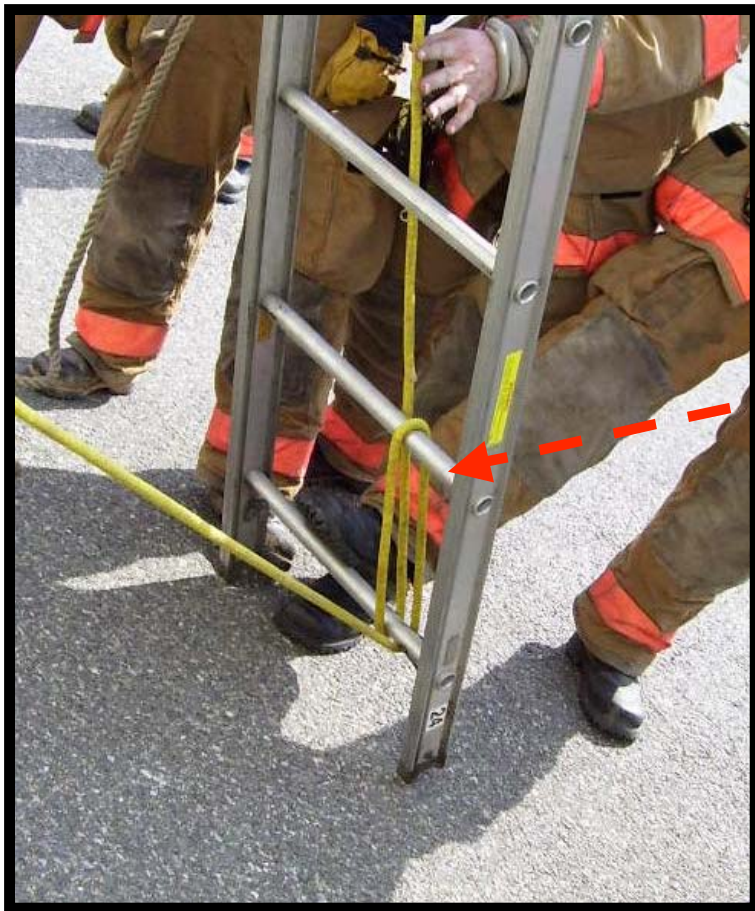
Step 1. Ready the down FF for lifting by placing the Sling-Loop on him or by buckling the waist strap of the SCBA through the legs.

Step 2. A ladder of requisite length should be thrown to a point approx. 2 to 3 feet above the window.

Step 3. Using a clove hitch with a safety tie the life line to the top rung of the ladder and run the line down the climbing side of the ladder. The line should be then wrapped around the bottom and next to bottom rungs to provide a rudimentary braking device.



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Step 4. Clip the carabiner to the lifeline in between the second and third rungs. Push the carabiner and line through the second and third rungs and make enough slack to get the carabiner and doubled line in through the window.

Step 5. Attach the carabiner to the Sling-Loop or to the gathered shoulder straps of the SCBA (in the rear of the FF).

Step 6. Signal the FFs on the ground to haul away and raise the FF up out of the window. It is easier to haul on the rope on the climbing side and have someone take up the slack around the bottom rungs (your braking device). When clear lower the FF to the ground.

The advantages of this system are that it is simple and quick. You can manage the outside with no more than two firefighters although three would be better.

Disadvantages are that it does nothing for spinal immobilization. This is for a quick grab so that the FF can be brought to ground and treated there.

Thanks to the firefighters of FS1 & 12 C shift for their participation.