Westbury Fire Department

Personal Safety System Training

2014 ver.1

The system Westbury F.D. has chosen to use:

RPI: Firefighter Escape System

Other FD in area using system:

- Garden City FD
- Manhasset Lakeville FD
- Hempstead FD
- Merrick FD
- Oceanside FD
- Glenwood FD
- Garden City Park FD

Suffolk County

- Huntington Manor FD
- Huntington FD
- Farmingville FD
- Sayville FD
- Bohemia FD
- West Babylon FD
- North Amityville FD

Scope of this Training

This Course is made up of 2 parts:

Part 1: *(done up to 3 months prior to original hands on part)*

Lecture (approx. 1 - 1.5 hrs)

- Explains need for a system
- Explains Scope of Training
- Review of Firefighting Tactics –

  to hopefully prevent needing a system deployment
- Explains System's components and their Use

The lecture is 1 time only, it's not required for re-certification, and this will ultimately become part of our Probationary Training.

Scope of this Training

Part 2:

The Hands on Training

7 – different bailouts,

All Required for your initial system certification.

&

- Reviews: Short Loads and Inverted Recovery Operations

3 - firefighters per session (1 - 1.5 hour per session)

WESTBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIREFIGHTER ESCAPE SYSTEM QUALIFICATION

The below criteria must be met by members to obtain department qualified on the department's Personal Escape System. This qualification authorizes Class A firefighters to wear the department issued "RPI firefighter Escape System" and also authorizes them to perform firefighting operation above the ground floor.

Date: _____/_____/_____

	Please Indicate Y or N for each of the criteria	Y	N
1	**Does the member have a Helmet w/ operational chin strap, Flash Hood, Bunker Coat, Pants and Boots, Firefighting Gloves, a Class 2 Harness properly adjusted (w/ a frame centered), Face Piece, and RPI System properly secured to their class 2 belt. ***Must Have ALL to Continue*****		
2	Has the member completed the classroom section of this qualification – **(*only required to "**obtain**" not to "**maintain**" certification*)**		**
3	Bail out Scenario 1 – *No SCBA* – Hook to sill (system draped out window)		
4	Bail out Scenario 2 – *No SCBA* – Tool as Anchor (to Steel Hook) (system draped out window)		
5	Bail out Scenario 3 – *No SCBA* – Remote Anchor (system draped out window)		
6	Bail out Scenario 4 – *SCBA not on air* – Hook to Sill (from system bag)		
7	Bail out Scenario 5 – *SCBA on air* – Tool as Anchor (Halligan) (from system bag)		
8	Bail out Scenario 6 – *SCBA on air* – Remote Anchor (from system bag)		
9	Bail out Scenario 7 – *SCBA on air* - Remote Anchor ****(Blacked Out)**** (from system bag)		
10	Viewed Demo of Inverted Correction Operation		
11	Viewed Demo of Short Load (descender doesn't passing window sill)		

Must Pass (Yes) to all to get Qualified

Member Name:_____Badge_____

Instructor Name:_____ Badge_____

Instructor Signature_____ Members Signature_____

WESTBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIREFIGHTER ESCAPE SYSTEM RE-QUALIFICATION

Members must successfully complete the Original Qualification Cycle
Before *they can utilize the "re-qualification" cycle to maintain their certification.*

The below criteria must be met by members to remain department qualified on the department's Personal Escape System. This qualification authorizes Class A firefighters to wear the department issued "RPI firefighter Escape System" and also authorizes them to perform firefighting operation above the ground floor.

Date: _____/_____/_____

	Please Indicate Y or N for each of the criteria	Y	N
1	**Does the member have a Helmet w/ operational chin strap, Flash Hood, Bunker Coat, Pants and Boots, Firefighting Gloves, a Class 2 Harness properly adjusted (w/ a frame centered), Face Piece, and RPI System properly secured to their class 2 belt. ***Must Have ALL to Continue*****		
2	Has the member completed the "Original" - 7 Bail Out qualification course.		**
3	Bail out Scenario 1 – *SCBA on air* – Hook to Sill (from system bag)		
4	Bail out Scenario 2 – *SCBA on air* – Tool as Anchor (Halligan or Hook) (from system bag)		
5	Bail out Scenario 3 – *SCBA on air* - Remote Anchor ****(Blacked Out)**** (from system bag)		
6	Reviewed Inverted Correction Operation		
7	Reviewed Short Load Operations (descender doesn't passing window sill)		

Must Pass (Yes) to all to get Qualified

Requalification Required in: 6 Months ☐ 12 Months ☐

Member Name:_____ Badge_____

Instructor Name:_____ Badge_____

Instructor Signature_____ Members Signature_____

Why do You Need to Know This or Why do you Need A System?

Part 800.7 of Title 12

- **Emergency Escape and Self Rescue Ropes and System Components for Firefighters**

Purpose and intent: This rule is intended to ensure that firefighters are provided with necessary escape rope and system components for self rescue and emergency escape and to establish specifications for such ropes and system components.

Required for all Firefighters in NYS *– exempt are " cities" w/ population over 1,000,000 residence served.*

Why do You Need to Know This or Why do you Need A System?

Employer Responsibilities:

1 – Provide a system – that meets this laws standards
2 – Inspect the system – at least Monthly
3 – Provide training – utilizing properly trained instructors
4 - Insure users are informed of system limitations and insure limitation are not exceeded
5 – Replace systems that are no longer meeting laws standards.

Chief's duties:

1- do a risk assessment on all buildings in the district and determine where a system is required to be worn.
2- Assure all Policies and Law are being adhered to

Firefighters duties:

1 – comply with Law, Policies set by Commissioners and Chief
This includes the wearing and checking of your systems as explained in this training.

Why do You Need to Know This or - Why do you Need A System?

There are plenty of rumors going around: wait the law is going to change...

A couple of items you need to consider:

1 – Maybe the law will change – but do you thing it's going to change for:
Town of North Hempstead – which allows building up to 6 Stories?
Town of Hempstead – which allowed the buildings such as NUMC - 19 stories or the Marriott Hotel Uniondale – 11 stories
* Both **Towns** are protected by Westbury FD, Both of these large buildings are in a neighboring dept's fire protection area and we are in their mutual aid plan.

2 – If you were a legislator and there was a law in place, would you be the legislator that votes to change a law that "un-protects" firefighters?
This would be like voting on a law that says you only need to wear your seatbelt if you drive over 40 mph instead of all the time…

Don't get cough up in the hype. – This law is here to stay, there is a need for the system in our fire protection area, as per or risk assessment and is why there was a Chiefs Directive implemented requiring all members operating at a fire & above a 2nd floor must have a Personal Protective Systems (PSS)

Today, Tomorrow, Next Week this could be someone in this room.

Right now , What are your options?

Time is Critical !

- How much time do you think you have if you're put into that situation?
- You may only have seconds to recognize what is happening around you, and how will you react ?
- Once you recognized what is happening,

  do you even have time to escape the area ?
- Is that rope and carabineer in your pocket enough?
- Did you take a tool with you into the building?
- Have you even trained for this type situation ?

These are the items that can make the difference

Between Life, Serious Injury or Death !

RPI product Demo

Click Photo to Play Video

As you can see, with the RPI System and Proper Training
you can be out of harms way within 10 seconds !

Firefighter Safety

Case Studies

Bronx Box 3-3 2997

aka: Black Sunday Fire

- January 23, 2005 0800 hrs.
- 13 inches of snow, 17ºF winds gusting to 45 MPH
- Four Story OMD, “H” Type, w/ SRO’s
- Reported people trapped on the floor above the fire.
- Six Firefighters jumped after being caught above fire when the Engine lost water.

Bronx Box 3-3 2997

aka Black Sunday Fire

Lieutenant Curtis W. Meyran

Firefighter John G. Bellew

Died from the injuries they sustained.
Four other firefighters received serious, life changing injuries -
1 of them

Joe DiBrenardo – died 11/26/11 (6 years later)

He was know for his proficiency with ropes.

Toronto Fire

- Sunday, February 26, 2006 5:37 PM

- Initial call for a Vehicle Fire
- 1 Engine Response
  - 1 Captain
  - 3 Firefighters

- Car Fire actually ended up being in a below grade garage, attached to the house.

The alarm us upgraded, but not before searches were made to the inside of the home

Can see, FIRE
ran up the unprotected
Interior staircase

Trapping firefighters
On 2nd floor

They eventually had
to jump from window

- Fire extended up a cold air return and an interior staircase,
- spreading fire throughout the entire structure,
- It trapping firefighters on the second floor in a matter of seconds.
- Firefighters were conducting basic primary searches.
- Thankfully,
- NO lives were lost!

Asbury Park, NJ January 2011

Conditions on arrival.

Fire conditions start to change

Can you survive?

See the BIG Picture

SMALLER PROBLEMS EVENTUALLY turn into

BIG PROBLEM.

All 3 Examples –

Small items with Tactics

Lead to Big Problems for the Firefighters!

All 3 department are Career Depts.

They got paid to attend their trainings…. Do we ?

See the **BIG** Picture

Problems on the fire ground will jeopardize Firefighter safety!

WATER! WATER! WATER!

Get a hose line stretched to protect both - Civilians and Firefighters.

and Always Know where the fire is !

Firefighter Safety

Lets Review some Firefighter Tactics

to <u>Potentially Prevent</u>

a system deployment.

Firefighter Safety

- It should be the goal of every member in this room to never get themselves into a situation where they'll need to deploy their P.S.S.

This **could happen** if you:

- know your surroundings
- performing appropriate firefighting tactics in meet your objective(s).

and only for the things that happen ***outside of our control*** *-*
should we need to deploy our P.S.S.

Firefighter Safety

Deploying your PSS **Should** occur
as a result of Event(s)
outside of your control
changing,
leaving you no other option.

Example: Loss of a hose line trapping you above the fire floor
(as the case in Black Sunday case study)

And NOT from poor tactics of advancing above the fire floor before the line was ever in place!
(as the case in Toronto case study)

*** **EVERYONE SEE THE DIFFERENCE ?** ***

Firefighter Safety

Your PSS should be **perceived** as a last resort tool an NOT your

"*get out of jail free card*"

Allowing you go deeper or somewhere you shouldn't be in the first place,

because you now have a way out!

Tactics we need to Remember

- Always "BE PREPARED"
  - Have a PLAN before you: respond… deploy… retreat…
  - Do your SIZE-UP (know everything about what you're going into)
  - All members not operating a hand line, should have a tool in hand, otherwise your just another spectator.
  - Monitor your surroundings
    - Watch and read the smoke. (what is it telling you ?)
    - Monitor radio communications (everyone on scene should know what's transpiring)
    - Progress of hand lines. (is there progress or lack of progress ?)
  - Find a Second means of Egress, Immediately or ASAP !
  - **PREPARE FOR THE WORST** !
  - **TRAIN LIKE ITS REAL** ! This is how your body will naturally react
  - when confronted with danger later.

(repetitive practices) & (fight or flight response)

Have a Plan

- **Know** your job assignments responsibilities
- if uncertain – ASK - WHAT THEY ARE !
- Stick to the PLAN, only change it if you absolutely have to.
- Complete your assignment – everyone is expecting this.

  Report your inability to complete an assignment

- ***Again* - Rely on your TRAINING**.

  IT WILL KEEP YOU ALIVE! … Continue to learn.

(We learn form our Success' and even more from our Failures – keep trying)

Situational Awareness

- Ask Yourself - What should I expect :
  - With the Resources that are on scene? (quality/quantity)
  - Is there more Help on the way?
  - Are Units delayed ?
  - Is there a FAST in place?
  - Type of building/occupancy
  - Time of day, occupied/vacant?
  - Limitations of personnel/units
  - **INITIATE PLAN A** ……
    but have plan B,C,D formulated this in your head.

This is not only for officers – we all should be doing this !

Know **YOUR**
Strengths and **Limitations**

Every member in this room has
their strengths and their weakness

(teams are only as good as the weakest link)

Through Training and Past Experiences
know what they are and don't exceed them,
Yours or Your partners.

Officers especially, should "know" all the members
on their rig or assigned to them!

Know the Fire building's construction.

Platform vs. Balloon

Dimensional lumber .vs. .Lightweight truss

again each has their
Strengths and Weaknesses

Know Occupancy

Residential vs. Commercial

Know Occupancy

Occupied vs. Vacant

Risk versus Reward

- Risk **NOTHING** to save nothing.
- Risk **LITTLE** to save a little.
- Risk **A LOT** to save a lot.

We shouldn't be taking excessive risk inside a vacant structure that is getting bulldozed

once we leave!

Positive Water Supply

Engines when they are on hydrant, it should be Broadcasted:

"967 to 967 officer we're on hydrant"

Everyone on that fire ground should know this!

Positive Water Supply

- All Engine Co. **MUST** work together to <u>get the first hand line in place</u> and into operation.
- The first line may not always suppress the fire. it can protect egress, contain the fire or keep it from extending.
- <u>Opposing lines</u> can place firefighters in extreme danger and expand the problem!

If we put out the fire
many of the problems,
(or potential problems)
usually go away.

Understanding Smoke

Lack of Progress vs. Making Progress

What is the Smoke telling you ?

Watch the Smoke

Understand what the smoke is telling us!

- Is it Under pressure
- Is it Lifting
- Changing color, turning to steam or turning black
- What is burning? Contents or Structural components?

Feel the heat!

- Has there been and extreme change in temp?

Stop and **Listen** to your surroundings.

Listen to the radio reports.

Know Where the Fire Is!

Don't become complacent!

Don't *ASS-U-ME* - know where the fire is,

don't commit yourself to the unknown!

Know where the hose line is!

Is it in operation, are they having trouble advancing it or did the guys on the line bail out because it "got to hot"!

Is the only life hazard in the fire building – **US** ?

Know where you are!

Know where you are in relation to the fire !

Find and note window locations – (found on exterior walls)

Search toward your second means of egress.

Open the window, look out the window,

reorient yourself, if needed (are you in front, back or side of structure ?)

If possible, vent as you go –

Making sure their's progress on fire before venting.

Recognize Landmarks.

TV, Couches, doors, bathrooms, chairs, beds

Radiators, baseboard heat, floor vents! (*been here before ?*)

Orient yourself, know where you are!

- Keep in contact with the wall or anchor point
- Keep to your search pattern - if possible.

  Right hand is in so left hand out...
- Listen to your surroundings. What do you hear?
- Close the door to the fire room if possible!
- Close the door to the room you are searching - VES
- Leave the can man at the fire room door to contain the fire until you can get a line in place.

Second means of Egress

- Front/Rear Fire Escapes
- Ladders (Portable, Aerial, Towers)
- Windows
  - TAKE THE ENTIRE WINDOW!
  - Know where you are in the building!
    - Front, Back, what floor, what side.
    - Find a tie off point or substantial anchor point
    - if need to bail…

Communications

- Do you have a radio?
- Listen and "**Process**" the radio reports being transmitted.
  (how is that report going to change the things for you?)
- Know when to give a MAYDAY and an URGENT!
- Don't wait to transmit a MAYDAY
  - If you are thinking about transmitting one, you should be doing it !
  - Give designation, problem, location, and what you need.
  - If possible, stay put. It's easier to get to a stationary object than a moving one.
  - If you're bailing out the window, you should be calling a MAYDAY! (what if you're not successful?)

Problems

- Problems don’t just happen.
- Correct the small problem before they creates larger ones.
- Don’t let things get out of control.
- Don’t get yourself into something you just can’t get out of !

PUT OUT THE FIRE!

MOST (if not all) OF YOUR PROBLEMS GO AWAY!

We do this with Water NOT Hooks!

Carry a Tool

- If you are **not assigned** to a hose line,
- you should have a partner **and** tools
  prior to entering building!

- Set of Irons (Axe, Halligan)
- 6’ Hook and Halligan
- Officer’s tool
- TIC, Search Rope! Extra Batteries for the TIC!

Carry a Tool

Recommended Personal Tools:

Tools should be carried in your PPE

so they are easily accessible in emergency situation.

- Multi-head Screw driver
- Wire Cutters (Insulated Handles)
- Knife
- Tubular Webbing with caribener

Training

Continued to TRAIN – CAN'T SAY ENOUGH!

Ask question – try to learn something everyday

be a student of the profession!

You'll always Revert back to your TRAINING

- IN AN EMERGENCY -

It will keep you alive !

Training

So you ask:

What does this have to do with Bail Out Training?

Our First objectives with Bail Out training

is to learn how to prevent ourselves from getting

into situations where we'll need to bail…

We don't want you to end up like this!

When you need to deploy your PSS:

Always *Transmit a* ***MAYDAY****!*

MAYDAY MAYDAY MAYDAY

963 Can TO COMMAND - MAYDAY

I'm on 2nd floor 3-4 corner,

bailing out the window

(if you don't succeed we know

where to find you)

IF Possible *-*

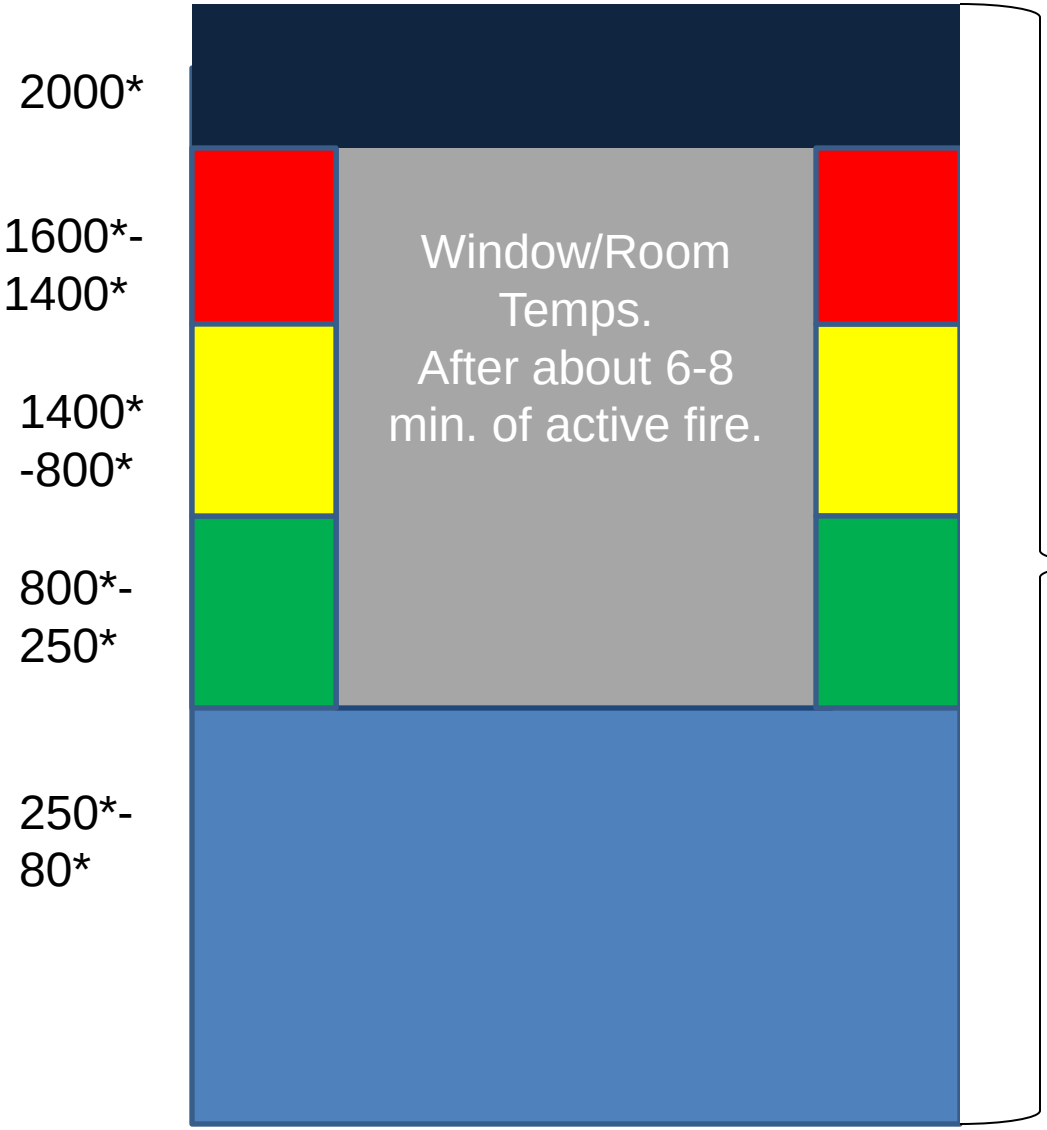
get to an area where you can

CLOSE the DOOR

behind you!

This provides an area of refuge and will buy you some time!


Take all the Glass!
Make the window a door!



What’s the temperature rating of our Face piece?

The System

The System

- ***The RPI Hook***
  - UL Tested and Classified to NFPA 1983, 2006 ed.
  - Tested to the Light-Use Auxiliary Equipment Standard
  - MBS 22 kN (4946 lbf.)
    - (Tested at tip)
  - Aircraft Aluminum 7075-T6

The System

- ***The RPI Rope/Webbing***
  - UL Tested and Classified to NFPA 1983, 2006 ed.
  - Tested as part of the Manufactured System Standard
  - MBS 6000 lbs.
  - Technora®
  - Made by Offray Specialty Narrow Fabric and Bally Ribbon Mills

The System

- ***CMC Escape Artist – Descender***
  - Specially designed to be used with the RPI Escape System.
  - Designed specifically to be used with webbing.
  - MBS 13.5 kN (3034 lbf.)
  - Made by CMC Rescue Inc.
  - Aircraft Aluminum

The System

- ***The RPI System***
- UL Tested and Classified to NFPA 1983, 2006 ed.
- Tested to the Manufactured Equipment Standard
- MBS 13.5 kN (3034 lbf.)
- (Tested at tip to the connecting carabeener)
- RPI is an ISO 9001:2008 Registered Firm

Deployment of the System

Choose your anchor and pull back on the tab of pouch to access RPI Hook.

To deploy hook, locate leg strap, follow it back to find pouch tab.

Use two hands to pull hook from pouch.

Use two hands and forcibly Snap hook away from body.

You want to feel resistance (stop)
Tug on your harness

If the hook doesn't Stop
It may not be Connected
to you harness?

Jumping wouldn't Be good !

Hooking the Window Sill

Anchor the HOOK!
At the window sill.
Three acceptable grips.

Seems to be most popular

Anchor the HOOK!
Through the hook, straddle the corner.

Anchor the HOOK!
Hook plunge.

Anchor the HOOK-remote anchor.

Tie off to remote anchor point.
Deploy slack for knot.

Wrap the hook over the remote anchor. Maintain hand/hook reference.

Place hook on top H.O.T.

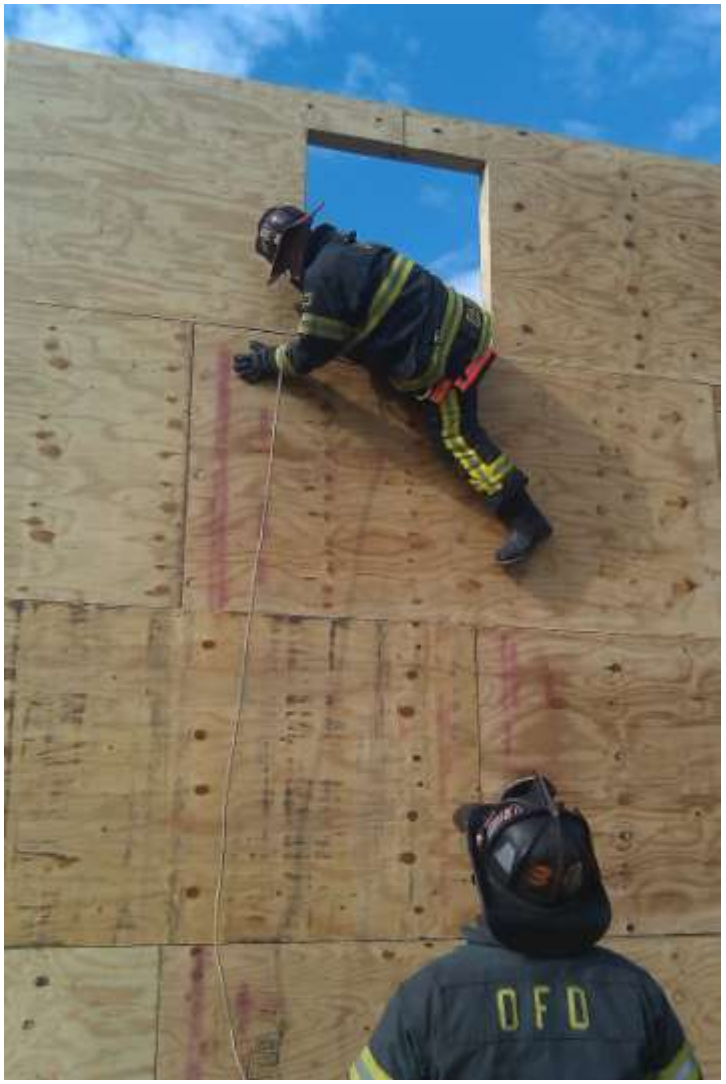
Pull webbing through handle of hook. Loop over point of hook.

Stay low, lead arm and head out and low in corner of window. Hips on the window sill, head and non-anchor arm out. Reach down and away.

Fold lead leg at knee and allow body weight to take you out of window. Stop in straddle position.

Straddle the window sill.

Hook the back leg and look at descent device for plumb point.

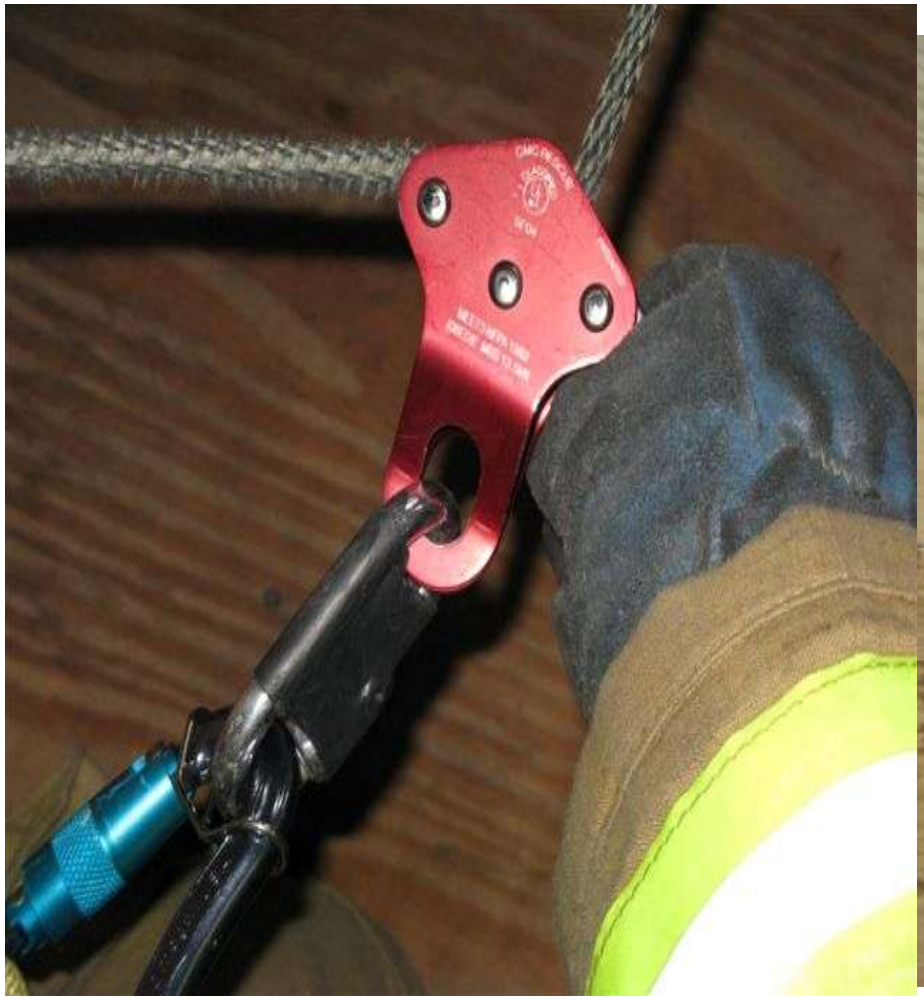


Release trail leg and maintain contact with anchor.

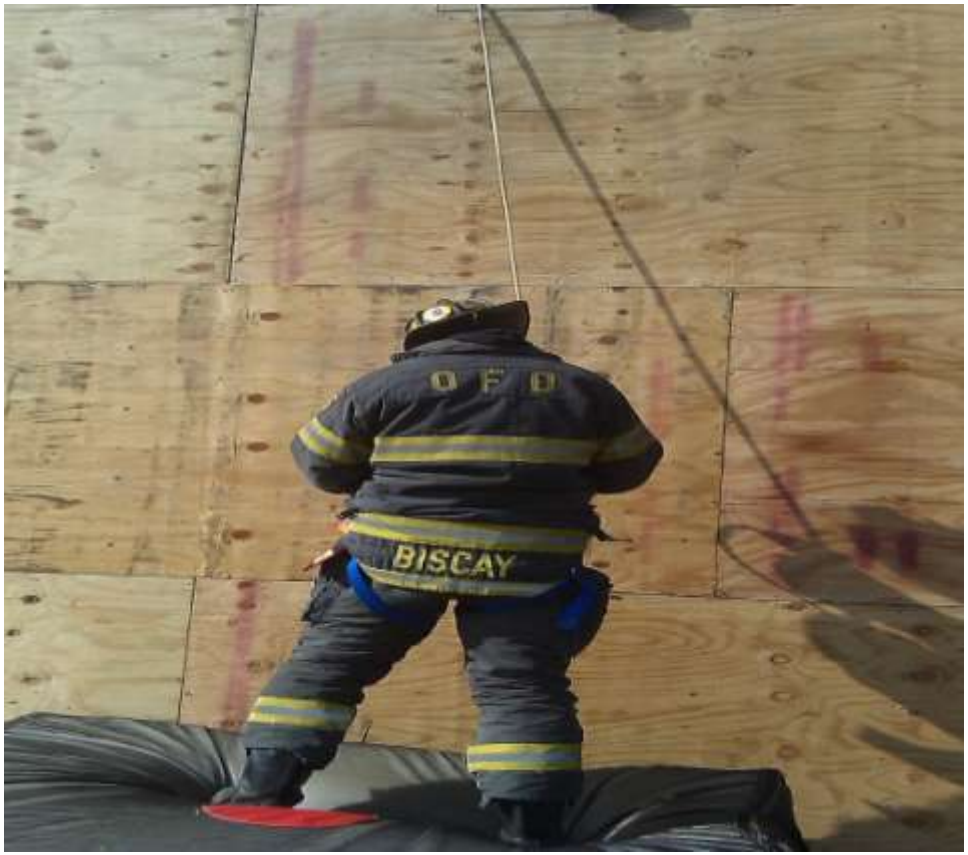
Maintain contact with anchor/sill. Look to see that descent device is loaded. (Handle up)

Locate free end of webbing and place safety in position.

Motor cycle grip on descent device handle. Descend slow and smooth to safety.



*Descend to **SAFETY**!*



Safety can mean to the floor below,
or to the ground.

If you mistakenly release your anchor hand prior to having both legs out you will wind up <u>like this!</u>

To recover if inverted, grab A-frame of harness and tuck knees to chest. You will be able to rotate to vertical. DO NOT GRAB DESCENDER!

Reminders!

- Squeezing the handle fully, makes the device move faster. (Do Not Squeeze the device fully!)
- Landmark the Escape Artist past the window sill, creating a plumb point. This prevents the device from jamming.
- Stay in control of your descent.
- Be aware of what is below you!
- Hope for the best!

& Plan for the worst!

Instruction, Care & Maintenance Guide

!!! WARNING !!!

!!! READ CAREFULLY !!!

INSTRUCTION, CARE & MAINTENANCE GUIDE

Model # RPI40 – L1, RPI40 R1
RPI50 – L1, RPI50 R1

!!! DANGER !!!

You must read and fully understand all supplied instructions/ information, or have all instructions/information explained to you, before attempting to use this equipment. Equipment must not be installed, operated or inspected by anyone who does not understand this Owner's Manual. Failure to observe these instructions could result in serious injury or death. Careless or improper use of the equipment can result in serious injury or death. This equipment is intended for use only by those who are thoroughly trained in its use and care. Training and instruction review should be repeated at regular intervals. If you have any questions regarding these instructions or need additional copies, call Rescue Products International, Inc. at 973-249-6277.

Rescue Products International, Inc.
73 Mt. Pleasant Tpk.
Denville, N.J. 07834
Office (973)-249-6277

RPI40 002427

Rescue Products International, Inc. 2011 - 2427
CCB 5/5/2011
Westbury Fire Department

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Additional Information regarding auxiliary equipment can be found in NFPA 1983, Standard on Fire Service Life Safety Rope and System Components and also in, NFPA 1500, Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program.

1. Inspect system every month and before and after every use.
2. Remove system from service and destroy if the system does not pass inspection or if there is any doubt about the safety or serviceability of the system.
3. **DO NOT** expose escape system to direct flame or high temperature. Exposure to high temperature may cause system components to burn and lead to failure.
4. **DO NOT** try to adjust, repair or modify the personal escape system. For direct service please contact RPI at (973)249-6277.
5. Keep all instructions and information supplied with the personal escape system after it is separated from the original packaging. All instructions and information should be retained in a permanent record and also a copy of the instructions and information should be made and kept with the equipment.

!!! CAUTIONS !!!

Items subjected to FALL ARREST or IMPACT FORCES must be immediately removed from service and destroyed. Any item showing **EXCESSIVE WEAR OR DETERIORATION** shall be destroyed. Inspect all equipment before each use. Failure to observe proper inspection and usage procedures could result in **INJURY** or **DEATH**.

ENVIRONMENAL HAZARDS must be considered in selecting the appropriate equipment. Recommendations where chemicals, high temperature or other unusual conditions exist may be addressed to Rescue Products International, Inc.

1 Guide assigned to each P.S.S.
& needs to be signed for by the assigned member issued that PSS,
(will go in members folder)

Instruction, Care & Maintenance Guide

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Additional Information regarding auxiliary equipment can be found in NFPA 1983, Standard on Fire Service Life Safety Rope and System Components and also in, NFPA 1500, Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program.

1. Inspect system every month and before and after every use.
2. Remove system from service and destroy if the system does not pass inspection or if there is any doubt about the safety or serviceability of the system.
3. **DO NOT** expose escape system to direct flame or high temperature. Exposure to high temperature may cause system components to burn and lead to failure.
4. **DO NOT** try to adjust, repair or modify the personal escape system. For direct service please contact RPI at (973)249-6277.
5. Keep all instructions and information supplied with the personal escape system after it is separated from the original packaging. All instructions and information should be retained in a permanent record and also a copy of the instructions and information should be made and kept with the equipment.

!!! CAUTIONS !!!

Items subjected to **FALL ARREST** or **IMPACT FORCES** must be immediately removed from service and destroyed. Any item showing **EXCESSIVE WEAR OR DETERIORATION** shall be destroyed. Inspect all equipment before each use. Failure to observe proper inspection and usage procedures could result in **INJURY** or **DEATH**.

ENVIRONMENAL HAZARDS must be considered in selecting the appropriate equipment. Recommendations where chemicals, high temperature or other unusual conditions exist may be addressed to Rescue Products International, Inc.

- Inspect every month
- Remove system from service if doesn't pass inspection
- Don't expose PSS direct flame, could lead to failure
- Don't try to make repair or modify the system yourself.
- Member will have copy of this material along with copy in your personnel folder

CAUTIONS

Once system used (no longer in Plastic cover) will be replaced

If PSS subject to High Heat, melting the plastic cover, or chemicals, the PSS will be replaced.

Instruction, Care & Maintenance Guide

INSPECTION

Users shall establish their own formal inspection routine according to prevailing conditions with a minimum of one formal inspection each month. Visual inspection is required before each use, for wear, frayed edges, discoloration from thermal impact, damage and other deterioration. Defective components shall require the entire system to be removed from service. If the user has further questions contact RPI for further instruction.

All inspections shall be documented in the log provided and shall be kept for the life of the product. The following shall be documented in the provided equipment log: Date of inspection, description and condition of the product, and inspector's signature.

1. All metal components shall not be: distorted or have any sharp burs, cracks, worn parts, gauges, dents, excessive wear, corrosion or exposed to chemicals or chemical fumes. If the system does not pass inspection or if there is any doubt of the safety or serviceability of the system, remove it from service and destroy the system. Make sure that double action carabineer and descent control device are in working order. The double action carabineer should be self closing and self locking at all times. The lever of the descent control device should be free of debris and working freely in a left-to-right motion. No lubricants shall be used on any moving parts, including the descender.
2. Quick-link must be inspected for tightness of locking gate. Do not remove covering for inspection. If the covering is loose or damaged, the system should be immediately removed from service and contact should be made to RPI for further instruction.
3. All rope shall be free of: frayed or broken fibers, pulled stitches, tears, abrasions, mold, and exposure to chemicals or chemical fumes, burns or discoloration. If the rope is exposed to CHLORINE, then the system must immediately be taken out of service and destroyed.
4. Internal pouch should be inspected for thermal impacts and shall be monitored for further failure. Thermal impact loads to the internal pouch shall indicate a potential high heat exposure to the rope in excess of 250°F. As long as there is no discoloration to the rope, the system can continue to be in use. If any doubt of safety or serviceability of the system, remove the system from service and destroy the system.
5. External pouch shall be inspected for rips, tears, abrasions, mold or discolorations and may be repaired as necessary. Please contact RPI for further questions concerning external pouch cleaning and repair.
6. The system may be attached to any rated class I, II, III, harness or Escape Belt. The point of attachment of the system to the harness must be approved by the harness manufacturer. The system must be attached directly to the harness by the triple action carabineer provided by the system. The harness must then be used as required by the harness manufacturer. The attachment point to the harness must be checked during routine inspection for wear and tear as specified by the harness manufacturer.

NOTE: THE PRECEDING INSPECTION PROCEDURES ARE A MINIMAL METHOD OF INSPECTION. THE INSPECTION PROCEDURE MUST REFLECT THE USE AND APPLICATION OF THE SYSTEM.

- Members will perform a visual inspection, 1 per month (prior to company meeting) and report their findings to the officer running the meeting.
- Company officer will perform inspection with 6 month gear inspection.
- The district has a responsibility to inspect each unit monthly as well.

Inspection :

Since we will be using training systems for training, inspections will be easy:

- Checking to see in rope still in the plastic.
- Check to see if hook is there and not damaged
- check to see if descended is there and handle is operational.
- Most importantly – the PSS is connected to the harness!
- The external pouch is not damaged subjecting PSS to possible damage.

Instruction, Care & Maintenance Guide

Connected to
Your Harness

Instruction, Care & Maintenance Guide

LIMITATIONS AND PROPER USE

The escape system is intended as a one-time use system for escape purposes only. Separate escape systems should be used for training. Practice is necessary for safe use of the escape system which requires familiarity with the operation of escape and basic rappelling. RPI strongly recommends training by a competent instructor. For further questions regarding recommended instructors, please contact RPI at (973) 249-6277.

1. Safety Requirements for Training: All users shall acquire training from a competent instructor before use. All users shall be protected with an independent belay line throughout training. It is strongly recommended that training is done over a safety net or other fall cushioning device.
2. Clearing the Window: The firefighter must first remove all components of the window, not limited to, glass, cross members, window gates, child safety bars and blinds to allow for an unrestricted escape. Also remove any edge material that may damage the escape rope.
3. Anchoring of System: A proper substantial object shall be selected by the user when deploying the system. The use of the hook for the attachment point, or the use of the hook and a tool is acceptable for anchoring to the substantial object.
4. Finding the Plumb Point for escape: The firefighter must allow for the devise to operate past the window sill. To do this, the firefighter must take a plumb point past the window sill by operating the control lever and allowing for extra rope to pass through the device to just past the outside of the windows edge. Once the firefighter feels he has enough rope in the system, he must then let go of the control lever and prepare for escape. Failure to do this can cause the system to bind and become stuck inside the window preventing the firefighter from adequately escaping.
5. Exiting the structure: The system is designed to allow both hands to be used to exit a window or other opening in the structure. Once the window is removed, the anchor is in place and the plumb point is taken, the firefighter is able to exit the structure under a controlled manner, preventing the shocking of the system. Once the firefighter is out the window and the system is loaded, the descender will automatically lock off.
6. Descending the structure: Once the system is locked off, the firefighter must grasp the untensioned end of the rope, while the other hand controls the control lever of the device. Slowly push the control lever towards the carabineer hole to initiate your descent. Control the rate of descent by varying the amount of grip to the untensioned end of the rope as well as varying the angle of the control lever. To stop descending, release the lever and tighten the grasp on the free untensioned end of the rope.

I, _____ have read, or have had this document read to me, and I fully understand, all of the inspection procedures, limitations, and proper uses of the RPI, Inc., RPI Firefighter Escape System.

_____

Signature Date

This RPI System is a 1 Time use system, if used it will be returned to RPI for Replacement.

- Training is a must – by qualified instructor, over a safety net or cushioning devise.
- Clearing window - remove all components of window: glass, cross members, gates, bars, blinds… for unrestricted escape.
- Anchoring System – to proper substantial object
- Finding the Plumb point for escape – member must allow the devised to operate past the window sill, by operating control lever and allowing for extra rope to pass through the devise.
- Exiting Structure – the system is designed to allow both hand to be used to exit, without operating the system. Once out, your hand will be used to descend.
- Descending the Structure – 1 hand grasp intentioned end of rope other control lever. Descending may not be to ground but floor below fire floor,

Train like your Life Depends on it!!!

The Incident Commander's Goal is

EVERYONE GOES HOME!