

SUMMARY

The Cearley Rescue Strap should be utilized in any rescue situation where a rescuer needs to quickly secure a victim to a raising or lowering apparatus, a rescue hoist, a contact rescuer or to secure a victim so as to prevent further injury.

CARRYING, MAINTENANCE & STORAGE

During use, carrying, and storage keep the Cearley Rescue Strap away from acids, alkalis, exhaust emissions, rust and strong chemicals. Do not expose the strap to flame or high temperatures. Carry the Cearley Rescue Strap where it will be protected as the strap could melt or burn and fail if exposed to flame or high temperatures.

If the Cearley Rescue Strap becomes soiled, it can be washed in cold water with a mild detergent. CMC Rescue recommends the use of LifeLine Cleaner. Dry out of direct sunlight. Do not dry in an automatic dryer. Store in a cool, dry location.

REPAIR

CMC recommends that all repair work is to be done by the manufacturer. All other repair work or modifications performed elsewhere may void the warranty, and shall release CMC Rescue Inc. from all liability and responsibility as the manufacturer.



Cearley Rescue Strap®

Made in USA

PRODUCT LABEL

DO NOT USE FOR CARGO

**DO NOT USE FOR EXTENDED LIFTS
THE CEARLEY RESCUE STRAP IS INTENDED FOR
SHORT TERM USE ONLY**

The **Cearley Rescue Strap®** was designed by Rick Cearley while a Senior Pilot flying helicopters for the Los Angeles County Fire Department, who recognized the need for a rapid means of securing a subject during swiftwater rescues. The Cearley Rescue Strap has proven itself in those situations where time or circumstances prevent placing the subject in a harness, but a secure attachment must be accomplished quickly. The original Cearley Rescue Strap is manufactured exclusively by CMC Rescue, Inc.

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ISO 9001 : 2000 Certified

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- **USE ONLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS.**
 - **INSPECT AFTER EACH USE IN ACCORDANCE WITH MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS.**
 - **REPAIR ONLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS.**
 - **THESE INSTRUCTIONS SHALL BE PROVIDED TO THE USER.**

WARNING

- **SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH MAY RESULT FROM THE IMPROPER USE OF THIS EQUIPMENT.**
 - **THIS EQUIPMENT HAS BEEN DESIGNED AND MANUFACTURED FOR USE BY EXPERIENCED PROFESSIONALS ONLY.**
 - **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO USE THIS EQUIPMENT WITHOUT PROPER TRAINING.**
 - **USE, INSPECT, AND REPAIR ONLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS.**
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THE CEARLEY RESCUE STRAP®

"All firefighters should consider carrying the Cearley Rescue Strap in his or her turnouts because it has many useful applications on the fireground as well as during technical rescues. The Cearley Rescue Strap may be used to quickly secure a downed firefighter who must be dragged, lifted through a roof hole, or lowered down a ladder during Rapid Intervention operations. It can be used as a hasty chest harness to pluck victims from above-ground windows and other fireground predicaments, in the same manner that we use it to rescue victims during a helicopter-based swiftwater rescue operations. The Cearley Rescue Strap may be used to secure Ventilation Team members from falling through the roof when they are cutting ventilation holes. It can even be used to construct an emergency anchor if deteriorating conditions make it necessary to self-rescue from upper floors. With our department, the Cearley Rescue Strap has already proven itself on rescues removing people from cliffs, confined spaces, trenches, floods, and other situations where lives depend on quick and simple securing of victims for evacuation. In fact, the list of fireground and rescue applications is limited only by the firefighter's imagination."

*Captain Larry Collins, Urban Search & Rescue Company,
Los Angeles County Fire Department*

DESIGN PURPOSE

The Cearley Rescue Strap is a proven new rescue device designed to offer security for the victim as well as simplicity and versatility for the rescuer. The Cearley Rescue Strap consists of a continuous length of 12,000-pound, bright-yellow webbing with no mechanical or hardware attachments. An uncomplicated rescue device such as the Cearley Rescue Strap, is easier to operate and offers less chance of improper or unsafe usage. The utilization of the Cearley Rescue Strap is limited only by the rescuer's imagination.

USER INSTRUCTIONS

NFPA Standard 1983 recommends separating the user instructions from the rescue strap and retaining them in permanent record. The standard also recommends making a copy of the instructions to keep with the rescue strap and that the instructions should be referred to before and after each use.

INSPECTING THE CEARLEY RESCUE STRAP

Inspect the Cearley Rescue Strap according to your department's policy for inspecting life-support equipment. The strap should be inspected after each use and at least once a year by an inspector that meets your department's training standard for inspection of life-support equipment. Record the date of the inspection and the results in the equipment log or on a tag that attaches to the strap. Each user should be trained in equipment inspection and should do a cursory inspection and check component compatibility before each use.

When inspecting the Cearley Rescue Strap, check the webbing for cuts, worn or frayed areas, broken fibers, soft or hard spots, discoloration, or melted fibers. Check the stitching for pulled threads, abrasion, or breaks. If any of the above are noted, or if the strap has been subjected to shock loads, fall loads, or abuse other than normal use, remove the strap from service and destroy it. If there is any doubt about the serviceability of the Cearley Rescue Strap, remove the strap from service and destroy it.

USING THE CEARLEY RESCUE STRAP

As a multipurpose rescue device, the Cearley Rescue Strap can and should be used in the following rescue situations: swiftwater and blue-water rescues, high rise, over the side, cliff, confined space, structure and brush fires, and any other rescue that the rescuer needs to secure a victim or themselves. The Cearley Rescue Strap is compact and can easily be carried in any vest or harness. The many functions of the Cearley Rescue Strap make it a must for the rescuer's personal rescue equipment. The Cearley Rescue Strap should be included in all new firefighters

initial equipment issue. They should be trained in and have this rescue device at their immediate disposal for their safety as well as that of any potential victim.

SWIFTWATER AND BLUE-WATER RESCUES

Swiftwater and blue-water rescues in most cases will be dynamic, with the rescuer swimming to the victim, either tethered or untethered. To use the Cearley Rescue Strap in these rescues, a carabiner is attached to one of the loops. The loop and carabiner are gripped in the prominent hand (right hand for instruction purposes), and the rest of the webbing is rick-racked with the reinforced loop on top and open. Do not relax your grip on the strap while swimming. Swim to victim, control from the back, and extend both arms under victim's arms to their front. The rescuer then grasps the loop with his left hand and pulls it to the back where he feeds the carabiner through the loop, centering and pushing the connecting point tight against the victim's back and connects the carabiner into the collection point of the rescue line. Important training points: keep rick-rack small (6- to 8-inch loops). Do not release grip on the strap while swimming. When pulling loop to the back of the victim, use resistance in your right hand to insure webbing location across the victim's chest. Tighten and center the connecting point on the victim's back before loading the line. Take command of the victim and be positive in your actions.

HIGH RISE RESCUES

The Cearley Rescue Strap should be used on all contact roof rescues. These rescues could be the result of fire, earthquake or other natural or man-made disasters. The Cearley Rescue Strap is placed around the victim or rescuer, under their arms with the connecting point either in front or back, centered and pulled tight. The rescuing vehicle may be a helicopter or any other hoisting or lowering equipment. If the victim is hoisted or lowered unaccompanied, the connecting point should be in the front.

OVER THE SIDE AND CLIFF RESCUES

This type of rescue usually involves a rescuer rappelling over the side or cliff area to the victim. When contact is made by the rescuer, the victim can be secured with the Cearley Rescue Strap to prevent further injuries or falling further. If the victim is uninjured, the rescuer can attach the Cearley Rescue Strap to the rescue line and they can be pulled up together. If the victim is injured, a helicopter hoist may be required. If the victim is to be hoisted in the Cearley Rescue Strap, a contact rescuer should accompany them, much the same as in the swiftwater procedure. In most, if not all, over the side, cliff, and high rise rescues, the connecting point on the Cearley Rescue Strap should be in front.

CONFINED SPACE RESCUES

The use of the Cearley Rescue Strap should be considered on all confined space rescues. The Cearley Rescue Strap is designed with simplicity and compactness in mind and in most cases the procedures to be used can easily be explained to the victim. If verbal contact is made with the victim, and they are uninjured and mobile, the Cearley Rescue Strap can be lowered to them by rescue line and carabiner. If a contact rescue is necessary, the Cearley Rescue Strap is secured around the victim by the rescuer and they are retrieved together.

STRUCTURE FIRES AND BRUSH FIRES

Structure fires inherently offer many scenarios where the Cearley Rescue Strap could and should be utilized. To name a few, secure the Cearley Rescue Strap around a victim, fellow firefighter or yourself and lower from a window ledge, aerial ladder, or any escape exit. Rappel a rescuer to a victim on a window ledge, secure victim in the Cearley Rescue Strap, attach into your rescue line and either be hoisted or lowered to safety. As for brush fires, the scenarios will change primarily because of the terrain, but the need to have the Cearley Rescue Strap available is much the same. As noted previously, the only limiting factors in the use of the Cearley Rescue Strap is the rescuer's imagination.