

TEXS

Tactical EXtraction System

Rescuing civilians in a fire is one of the most important jobs that firefighters are tasked with. When the rescue of one of our own is the job that task becomes much more difficult. Until now firefighters have had to use tarps, or a piece of webbing to assist in the rescue of one of our own or a civilian. Well times have changed and firefighters now have a new tool. The **TEXS**.

The **TEXS** is designed to give firefighters more options to drag, lift and carry. We all know the difficulty in moving an unconscious person and the extreme amount of energy it takes out of rescue teams. Many times one person is doing the majority of the work because of the minimal grab or lifting points. The **TEXS** gives the rescue team more efficient grab, lift and carry points, maximizing the full strength of the rescue team. Fire Departments need to maximize rescue efforts. The job needs to be done quickly and efficiently by the first or second rescue team. Once again the **TEXS** provides the rescue team options.

The **TEXS** utilizes four buckles to keep a down firefighter or victim secured while being dragged or lifted. The two buckles on the groin portion lock in place, allowing turnout pants to stay on the firefighter further protecting him/her. Two buckles on the torso will secure the victim's arms giving the rescue team control of the down firefighter or victim. Control over the victim is essential, the **TEXS** limits resisting movements from victims and helps to prevent firefighters from getting disoriented or having their own SCBA dislodged.

The **TEXS** has 5 straps located in convenient positions, giving rescuers multiple techniques to drag, lift and carry a person. The long head strap gives rescuers the ability to distance themselves from the victim, maximizing pulling or dragging effectiveness. The short strap at the head aids in lifting and pulling. The two straps at the side allow firefighters to have a firm grip to lift and drag. The 5th strap at the groin allows a rescuer to grab hold and aid in pushing, lifting and positioning a downed firefighter.

The **TEXS** is designed to be used by removing the SCBA off the firefighters back. The rescue team should place the SCBA on the victim's chest or utilize a rescue bottle providing the victim with a full bottle of air. With removal of the SCBA from the victim's back, lift height over objects such as window seals, is reduced by approximately 10-12 inches. This can make a huge difference in a person weighing 200 lbs or more. Victims being dragged using **TEXS** are less likely to get snagged on objects in the structure. The victim's position within the **TEXS** can reduce dislodging of a face piece. Comparatively, dragging done with the SCBA on the victim's back, forcing them at an angle, makes them more prone to face piece strikes or dislodgement from hitting objects such as furniture or door jams.

The firefighter's air can be switched over in a very quick and efficient manner. This can be accomplished by a HOT exchange of the regulator or a quick connect on the SCBA.

The firefighter is then placed into the **TEXS**. The **TEXS** can be quickly unrolled and placed next the firefighter. The firefighter can be lifted onto the **TEXS** or rolled onto the **TEXS** just like a backboard. If the rescue is being made in a tight or constricted area, where the person is in the prone position, the **TEXS** can be laid on top of the firefighter and tucked around the sides under the firefighter. The firefighter is then rolled to his/her side, enabling the rescuer to grab side straps or body of the **TEXS** and pull. This will cause the firefighter to finish the 180 degree roll and lay appropriately onto the **TEXS** in the supine position. The buckles are then fastened and the straps pulled tightly onto the firefighter.

Once the firefighter is secured, the rescue bottle can be attached to the **TEXS** on the pull straps or the buckle straps by using a carabineer. The most ideal location is usually on the top chest strap, however the rescue team can decide the best location to attach the rescue bottle. At any point if the team is moving through a confined area, the rescue bottle can be removed from the **TEXS** in order to move through the area. At any point the rescue bottle can then be reattached with out wasting valuable time. The rescuers can now move the firefighter out of the structure.

When dragging, the long head strap is ideal to put over the rescuer's shoulder and crawl. Long straps allow the rescue firefighter to actually drive

with his/her legs without having the victim running up onto their legs. Again, the long strap allows the rescuer maximization in pulling and dragging the victim. Another rescuer can grab hold of the groin strap, straddle the victim's leg and lift and push using that strap. If space allows, four rescuers can all get a good hold of the various straps to maximize moving a victim.

When a victim is brought to a window the victim can be maneuvered to a seated position using the two side straps. The long strap is given to firefighters outside the window who will hold the victim in place, allowing rescuers inside to get a good lifting position by utilizing the side straps and grabbing under the victims legs. All rescuers now have the ability to assist in lifting victims out windows.

All rescues do not go out front doors on the first floor. Some situations call for the rescuer to go out an upper floor window and down a ladder. The victim's legs are not constricted in the **TEXS** as in tarps and other rescue devices previously used. This allows victims to be placed on a rescuer's shoulder. Bring the victim feet first to the window and place him/her onto the shoulders of the rescuer on a ladder. Without the SCBA on the victim's back and the **TEXS** wrapped around them, the victim can be brought down the ladder with less chance of snagging. The firefighters at the window can attach a rope to the top strap of the **TEXS** and take much of the weight off of the ladder rescuer allowing a safe and controlled descent. If another rope is available at the window, that rope can be quickly attached to the rescue bottle in order to have complete control of the rescue bottle attached to the **TEXS**.

When rescuers are required to take a victim up stairs that task can literally exhaust the rescue team. The **TEXS** greatly assists rescuers by allowing them options in moving a victim up stairs. One firefighter can get a few steps above the victim and grab the top strap, utilizing their legs to lift the victim. At any time the long head strap can be shortened by tying a knot in the strap. The rescuer at the legs can grab the groin strap and carry the victim or lift the victim a few steps at a time. Also a piece of webbing can be run through the groin strap and utilized in a variety of ways to aid in lifting. The **TEXS** benefits the rescue team immensely by allowing options and improved lifting techniques on stairs, saving time and energy.

The **TEXS** gives rescuers options. Options to move down victims in different scenarios; from out windows, up stairs, up and down ladders, the Denver Drill, and over objects and tight spaces such as a breeched wall. The more firefighters that use the **TEXS**, the more benefits are found.

Give your rescuers the greatest chance to save not only victims but one of their own. The **TEXS** is designed by firefighters to save firefighters and civilians.

TEXS: Taking Rescue By The Horns.

Contact us or your Dealer for more information.

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