

Fire Engineering

TACTICAL BUILDING BLOCKS SERIES

Personal Harness Use

Sponsored by:



Firefighter Removals

HORIZONTAL DRAGS – TWO FIREFIGHTERS



Situations for use:

- ✓ Extensive removal distance

- ✓ Extensive removal distance
- ✓ Large-size downed firefighter

Webbing or rope can be used for drag

Distributes weight between both rescuers

Two Drag Options:

- ✓ Simultaneous
- ✓ Alternating



FIREFIGHTER STAIR REMOVAL



Stairwell removals create a difficult upward climb because of:

- ✓ Rescuer fatigue
- ✓ Steepness/turns
- ✓ Awkward positions
- ✓ Stairwell instability

Focus on torso of body

Top Rescuer

- ✓ Attach pompier hook to firefighter's SCBA strap
- ✓ Vertical lift
- ✓ Handles on pompier hooks or harness straps

Bottom Rescuer

- ✓ Uses harness straps as lifting handles



VERTICAL LIFT



Used for subfloor removals as a last resort

Method 1: Rope Bight

- ✓ Double rope in half
- ✓ Middle of rope clips into firefighter pompier hook

Method 2: Double Handcuff Knot

Two attachments

- ✓ Upper front
- ✓ Lower rear

Lower rear attachment can be double handcuff or Figure 8 on bight can be used along with carabiners

Both methods provide option for two or four removal lines



VERTICAL LOWER

Upper-Floor Removal Option





Ladder high point method incorporating personal harness

Equipment Required

- ✓ Life safety rope
- ✓ Ground ladder

Ladder is used as a high point anchor and a friction device

Downed firefighter attachment is harness pompier hook through coat

- ✓ Prevents inversion



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For more information on Personal Harness Use, go to Training Minutes or Daniel DiRenzo's article on Personal Harness Use in *Fire Engineering*, both at FireEngineering.com. Special thanks to Safety & Survival Training, LLC, and the Collingswood (NJ) Fire Department.

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