

Man OverBoard Recovery: Survivor Strop

Description

Constructed of webbing with a breaking strain in excess of two tonnes and stainless steel hardware the Survivor Strop provides a quick and safe means of hoisting **uninjured** persons. During manufacture the load bearing construction of each strop is tested to 300kgs.

Although primarily designed for Man OverBoard rescues, it can also be used in other situations where a casualty needs to be pulled or lifted eg from mud/ quicksand or in suitable helicopter-lifting drills/simulations.



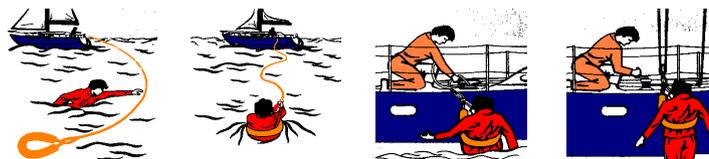
Warnings & Cautions

- All personnel should receive instruction and practice in the use of rescue equipment . Where possible, only appropriately trained personnel should deploy the Survivor Strop
- The Survivor Strop is to be used to hoist **uninjured** persons only, unless there is more of a threat to life by not using the strop to recover an injured person
- Inspect all materials, webbing and hardware for proper condition prior to use
- The Survivor Strop is useful and quick, but it is possible to fall out of it
- It should not be used with the helpless, injured or disabled casualties

Using the Survivor Strop

When a conscious casualty is lifted from the water by use of the Survivor Strop it is possible that a rescue swimmer may be lowered into the water to assist. Alternatively the casualty may be required to manage the strop themselves.

1. With the woggle extended pass the strop over the head, or round the legs of the casualty. Ensure the wide padded part of the strop is as high as possible across the back, with the two straps coming under the armpits and up in front of the face
2. Draw the woggle down as far as possible to close the strop around the chest
3. Keep arms down
4. When ready to be lifted, look up and signal to the rescuers by raising one arm with a 'thumbs up' signal. (If a rescuer is in the water assisting they will make this signal)
5. Put both arms down as described in 3. above
6. Do nothing when hoisted to the rescue vessel until instructed by the crew



Alternatively, to avoid the problems of lifting casualties vertically, a second strop may be used, secured behind the casualty's knees. This arrangement lifts the casualty in more of a horizontal position and so lessens the danger of post immersion collapse.

Inspection

The Survivor Strop must be thoroughly examined by a competent person at periodic intervals not exceeding six months, and always before being taken into use. The competent person is obliged to report any defects found during the examination. As a daily routine, the strop should be visually inspect for signs of damage cuts, abrasions, cracks, or deterioration/deformation of metal components which must be reported to the competent person. If any defect is found the strop **must** be withdrawn from service.

Note: Information concerning the stowage, care and inspection of nylon and polypropylene materials is available in the UK Code of Practices for Merchant Seamen, UK Marine Guidance Notes as issued from time to time, and other sources

Maintenance

Rinse thoroughly with fresh water, and air dry the strop after salt water exposure. Mild soap and water can be used to hand wash the strop.

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