

Report Date: 23 Apr 2014

**Summary Report for Individual Task
052-247-1330
Operate a Lowering System
Status: Approved**

DISTRIBUTION RESTRICTION: Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

DESTRUCTION NOTICE: None

Condition: You are a member of an Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) team and are given established lowering and belay systems, carabiners, rescuer(s) to be lowered and personal protective equipment (PPE). This task should not be trained in MOPP 4.

Standard: Operate a lowering system ensuring the rescuer is attached to the lowering system, a system safety check is conducted, descent is conducted in a controlled manner, does not stress the system to the point of failure and potential problems are identified, communicated and managed.

Special Condition: None

Safety Level: Low

MOPP: Never

Task Statements

Cue: None

DANGER

None

WARNING

None

CAUTION

None

Remarks: All required references and technical manuals will be provided by the local US&R Command.

Notes: None

Performance Steps

1. Attach the rescuer(s) to the lowering system.
 - a. Attach a carabiner to the figure eight on a bight knot on the running end of the rope.
 - b. Clip the carabiner onto the rescuer(s).
2. Conduct a system safety check on the lowering system. (See task 031-627-2152)
3. Communicate with the belayer that the lowering system is ready for a lowering operation.
4. Unlock the brake bar rack.

Note: When unlocking the rack, always keep a firm grip on the rope and allow no slack in the running end of the rope.

Note: The term "brake bar rack" will be referred to as a "rack" throughout the rest of the task.

- a. Untie the overhand knot, while maintaining constant tension on the rope with your brake hand.
 - b. Slowly lower the rope to return to the "stop" position.
 - c. Resume your guide hand's normal position of cradling the bars.
5. Communicate with the rescuer(s) to pre-load the main-line rope on the edge of the rappel site.
 - a. Hold tension on the bars while the rescuer(s) pulls tension on the system.
 - b. Feed the rope through the rack to provide slack by spreading the bars with one hand and feeding the rope with the opposite hand.

Note: If the rope is not moving through the rack, remove one bar at a time to reduce friction and allow the rescuer(s) to move.

CAUTION

Do not lower a rescuer with fewer than four bars engaged. If the loaded rope does not move through the remaining four bars, spread the bars with the guide hand to reduce the friction and push the rope through the bars with the brake hand.

6. Communicate to the rescuer(s) to move downgrade.
7. Continue feeding the rope through the rack until the rescuer(s) are off the main-line rope.

(Asterisks indicates a leader performance step.)

Evaluation Guidance: Score the Soldier GO if all measures are passed (P). Score the Soldier NO-GO if any measure is failed (F). If the Soldier fails any measure, show him how to do it correctly.

Evaluation Preparation: Setup: Provide the Soldier with all the items listed in the conditions.
Brief Soldier: Tell the Soldier to Operate a Lowering System.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES	GO	NO-GO	N/A
1. Attached the rescuer(s) to the lowering system.			
2. Conducted a system safety check on the lowering system. (See task 031-627-2152)			
3. Communicated with the belayer that the lowering system was ready for a lowering operation.			
4. Unlocked the brake bar rack.			
5. Communicated with the rescuer(s) to pre-load the main-line rope on the edge of the rappel site.			
6. Communicated to the rescuer(s) to move downgrade.			
7. Continued feeding the rope through the rack until the rescuer(s) were off the main-line rope.			

Supporting Reference(s):

Step Number	Reference ID	Reference Name	Required	Primary
	ISBN-10: 1428324100 ISBN-13: 9781428324107	High Angle Rescue Techniques, 3d Edition 1st Edition George J. Browne, Gus Crist	No	No
	NFPA 1006	Standard for Rescue Technician Professional Qualifications	Yes	Yes
	NFPA 1670	Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents. 2009 Edition	No	No

Environment: Environmental protection is not just the law but the right thing to do. It is a continual process and starts with deliberate planning. Always be alert to ways to protect our environment during training and missions. In doing so, you will contribute to the sustainment of our training resources while protecting people and the environment from harmful effects. Refer to FM 3-34.5 Environmental Considerations and GTA 05-08-002 ENVIRONMENTAL-RELATED RISK ASSESSMENT.

Safety: In a training environment, leaders must perform a risk assessment in accordance with FM 5-19, Risk Management. Leaders will complete a DA Form 7566 COMPOSITE RISK MANAGEMENT WORKSHEET during the planning and completion of each task and sub-task by assessing mission, enemy, terrain and weather, troops and support available-time available and civil considerations, (METT-TC). Note: During MOPP training, leaders must ensure personnel are monitored for potential heat injury. Local policies and procedures must be followed during times of increased heat category in order to avoid heat related injury. Consider the MOPP work/rest cycles and water replacement guidelines IAW FM 3-11.4, Multiservice Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures for Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical (NBC) Protection, FM 3-11.5, Multiservice Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Decontamination.

Prerequisite Individual Tasks : None

Supporting Individual Tasks :

Task Number	Title	Proponent	Status
052-247-1207	Construct a Lowering System for Rope Rescues	052 - Engineer (Individual)	Analysis
052-247-1303	Belay a Falling Load	052 - Engineer (Individual)	Approved
031-627-2153	Operate a Belay System	031 - CBRN (Individual)	Approved
031-627-2151	Construct a Belay System	031 - CBRN (Individual)	Approved
031-627-2148	Construct a Single Point Anchor System	031 - CBRN (Individual)	Approved
052-247-1301	Tie Knots, Bends, and Hitches for Rope Rescues	052 - Engineer (Individual)	Analysis

Supported Individual Tasks : None

Supported Collective Tasks : None