Inset: The actual front cover for issue 56. This E-Mag cover was our alternative front cover for issue 56 and was subsequently used as a title picture spread for Lee Lang’s article on Larimer County SAR Team’s MRA recertification. photo by Robbie Popp
NEW ANNUAL PHOTO COMPETITION

Issue by Issue, Technical Rescue Magazine tries to feature as many large format images as we can and regularly features an additional ‘Gallery’ page to house them all. With this in mind, we are particularly pleased to announce, the Canpro Annual Photo Competition for amateur and professional rescue photographers.

Fantastic prizes of Nikon Camera equipment are being sponsored by Canpro Training Resources – Occupational Health, Safety and Industrial Rescue of Canada, who are specialists in training of industrial and confined space rescue as well as OH&S and standby rescue services to North American customers.

The competition will be fully detailed in Issue 57 of the hard-copy magazine due out before Halloween! The gist is: Two classes of entries – ‘Amateur Class’ with a winner and runner-up prize and a ‘Professional Class’ with a winner prize (because no Pro likes to be runner-up!). Throughout the competition, we will try to publish as many of the entries as we can. The winning shots will ultimately be given a stand alone gallery or centre spread, in Technical Rescue.

As this is the first annual Photo Competition, we will see how it goes and may expand on the prize base plus incorporate new subcategories on the types of photos next year.

Please submit your entries by email. Images need to be in high resolution digital format, preferably jpg images. Closing date for competition is March 2010. Start sending your entries now!

PLEASE EMAIL SUBMISSIONS TO:
photo@trescue.com

AMATEUR – Winner - Nikon D300S Digital Camera
AMATEUR – Runner Up - Nikon P6000
PRO – Winner - Nikon WT-4A Wireless File Transmitter

1st
NIKON D300S

2nd
NIKON P6000

With GPS

We mostly work remote from the office phone so don’t expect an answer. However, we will ring you back if your message hasn’t been accidentally deleted. Better still email us because we monitor these most often regardless of where we are: info@trescue.com rescueimagazine@aol.com rescueimagazine@btinternet.com

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IN THE NEWS

PORTUGAL

21 Aug 2009

BBC: At least five people have died and several others have been injured in a landslide at a beach in the Algarve region, southern Portugal, officials say.

A 60-year-old man and four women—two under the age of 25—were killed when part of a cliff collapsed on the popular Maria Luisa beach in Albufeira. Rescue services are continuing to search for further victims who were caught in the landslide at midday on Friday. Diggers were deployed at the site as part of a rescue operation.

A witness quoted by Portugal’s Lusa news agency said that “part of the cliff came down around noon and rocks crashed onto the beach up to the sea causing much panic.” A 28-year-old woman—one of the injured people—was in a critical condition.

TR: The death toll here eventually reached 8. It would seem that man and child remained buried at the time of this report. A minor earthquake a few days previously may have made this cliff even more unstable than it already was (warning signs along that section warned of the dangers of landslides). This multi-service operation involved Lifeguards who were first on scene (pic centre) with firefighters, Civil (Defence) Rescue, ambulance and police. The size of block in the picture right show why there were immediate fatalities and why digging out was so difficult. The top picture shows why the tide quickly became a major concern and temporarily halted operations. Sand engulfments are virtually non-survivable especially when water saturation is brought into the equation but in this case black sandstone would have given some hope of survival-able voids. Ultimately, this was proven not to be the case.

ROAD COLLAPSE - CHINA

Workers had expedited part of the viaduct and planned to explosive the collapsed section on Wednesday.

The municipal public security bureau said today that police had detained people initially held responsible for the accident, but did not give any other details.

Officials from the provincial government and the state mine safety watchdog have launched an investigation into the collapse.

The viaduct, which came into use in 1995, was the scene of a crash on Tuesday.

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IN THE NEWS
ISSUE 56 Sampler

OUT NOW - but...... Apologies to many who may have seen a copy floating around the station etc but have yet to receive their own. This is because most copies are still sat in the warehouse awaiting mailing - we are swapping to a new mailing house so the subscriber copies to the rest of the UK, US, European and Australasia should hopefully be going out in the next week or so.

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Cover & Below right: Our TEAM in issue 56 is a British Columbian Ski Patrol on Mount Vernon. Jeremy Griffiths, glamour model from TRm issue 42, is their new head of emergency services and describes the work of the ski patrol and the process involved in being a Brit from sunny Cornwall translocated to the snowy mountains of Canada.

Clockwise from right: Following on from Ski Patrol, Ivan Hansen looks at the work of Avalanche Search Dogs

• A new Extrication series from Richard Denham and Nick Appleton of London Fire Brigade introduces the subject of heavy vehicles and where the potential pitfalls are.

• Richard Hackwell describes in detail the recent upgrade of UK Coastguard rope rescue systems

• Gear review of OTB (over the Beach) water rescue/cue/Dive boots

• Lee Lang describes how Larimer County SAR in Colorado cope with recertification for the Mountain Rescue Association

• We continue our medical series from rescuers-turned-medical students with Halden hutchinson-Bazely’s examination of the use of Ketamine in the field.

• Our Market Guide to Water Rescue Craft continues with a look at Rescue Hovercraft

• The TerrAdaptor is a fantastic new multipod system from SMC and PMI

ISSUE 57 Sampler

Out in the Autumn, but expect a slight delay as we clear the backlog from issue 56.

get your order in NOW:

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Left: COVER 57: We again have three contenders for issue 57’s cover - The main candidate is the Canadian Coastguard MLB battling waves on Vancouver Island but we have concerns over the resolution of the image. No such worries with the similar subject matter also from Ivan Hansen’s Team article in 57 this time with a rescue hovercraft. Not sure about the strength of colour in this photo. Finally, bottom left is the USCG photograph of an airboat being used post-Katrina. Our market guide in issue 57 is airboats and this is a great picture but we have concerns about the lack of PPE worn by personnel on the craft, which is bound to be picked up by many as a negative point.

Right: Illustrating that not all airboats feature a pilot sat in an ‘umpire’ chair on a dory-style hull. Our title pic highlights that many are low centre of gravity, fully gunwaled hulls with enclosed cabins that are still capable of riding over ice, snow, mud and sand. Like hovercraft in issue 56, airboats of all types have a role to play in certain environments and we try to discern the good from the not so good.

Right: The Arachnipod is an Australian multi-pod that will find it hard to follow in the wake of the Arizona Vortex and the TerrAdaptor featured in issue 56. However it does have a couple of tricks up its sleeve that sets it apart and can make it indispensable to certain services.

ALSO IN ISSUE 57:

• Vehicle Extrication - Heavies pt2 by London Fire Brigade

• A comparison of Autolock Descenders by Greg Churchman

• A research paper on the ability of webbing to withstand exposure to sunlight, rain and temperature

• Sean Johnson looks at the role of helicopters in inland water SAR

• Gear Review on Ferno Arachnipod

• Rich Hackwell continues with the UK Coastguards

NB: The design, content and titling of pages shown here may be different in the final printed magazine

ISSUE 58 Winter 2010

• Pipe Sealing Airbags

• Dealing with Anthrax

• London Fire Brigade look at trucks/orories/heavies

• Tactical Lighting

• PWCS (Personal Water Craft)

• Rotterdam Joint services Control

• Rope Rescue Equipment Reviews

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**Who’s Who at TRm?**

**ADE SCOTT**
Editor - UK
15yrs Head of Technical Rescue Unit (TRU) (ret) Rescue/Defence conslt. past NASAR presenter

**JIM SGERSTROM**
US Editor - USA (died Feb 2007)
Water Guru, Founder Rescue3 International, Flight paramedic Tuolumne County SAR

**KELLY MATTHEWS**
Sales & Admin Director - UK
Law Costs Draughtsman, The real Boss of TRm

**GARY CROSS**
Senior Chimp - UK
Firefighter, ex-TRU, HMCoastguard, Extrication Team Medic, Marine Incident Response Group

**RICH HACKWELL**
SAR Editor - UK
HM Coastguard-Head of Technical Rescue, Lifeguard, ex-TRU (ex Tree Surgeon)

**BRIAN ROBINSON**
Con-Space Rescue Editor - UK
National Confined Space Rescue Instructor ex-Mines Rescue, ex-TRU

**JEZ HUNTER**
Contributing Editor - UK
ex-Royals Marines, Water Rescue, USAR & , Rope instructor, now a medical student

**DR STEWART BOYD**
Medical Editor - RSA
Top Medical Dog - KZN, Trauma Doc, Flight Medic, War-zone junkie

**LEE LANG**
SAR Editor - USA
Ex-firefighter & EMT, current SAR team member and past NASAR presenter

**SEAN JOHNSON**
Contributor - Dive Rescue - USA
Fresno Fire Dept Firefighter, USAR & Dive Team Medic

**GREG CHURCHMAN**
Contributor - USAR/ Rope - Canada
Fire Officer, Pilot, Rope Rescue Instructor

**RICH BELL**
Contributor - UK
Paramedic, Dr. Extreme Medics, ex-Police, Tactical medic, ex-TRU

**CHRISS WALKER**
Researcher - UK
Ex-Technical Rescue Unit, National RNLI Instructor (HG), Regional SAR Team Member.

**IVAN HANSEN**
Contributing Editor - Canada
Acting Fire Captain, Advanced Emergency Medical Care Assistant, ex-Coastguard Aux.

**BEN WALLER**
Aquatic Editor - USA
Water Rescue expert, Battalion Chief, Training Chief, Paramedic, USAR tech & HazMat tech.

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**MAG-INFO**

**REED THORNE**
Rope Rescue Editor - USA
Rope Guru, Sedona SAR, ex-Firefighter, Stiennonason and past NASAR presenter

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**Who’s Who at TRm?**

**Gary Cross**
TRm’s Go-To man meets his match in Barbados

Gary Cross
After years of putting up with Gary’s extensive extra-curricula activities (full time firefighter, water rescue specialist, MIRG Team (offshore firefighting) ex-Technical Rescue Unit, extrication team medic, Coastguard and First Responder) Lin finally gave in and married him. Of course, having Barbados as a venue probably helped sweeten the deal for her and as the above picture shows, it beats the hell out of a Portsmouth Registry Office!

The kids, Josh and Emily got in on the act and even put up with the photography - all worth it for those days on the beach and by the pool - should get married more often they reckoned!

Congratulations Lin and Gary

---

**Superfluous to requirements?**

or the ultimate optimist? This Chinese citizen was caught out in the floods caused by Typhoon Morakot and decided that it was a bad enough day without having to suffer the indignity of wet hair as well.

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**Photo Credits**

A. Adams from Argus Images

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The military hopes on Friday to airlift out the nearly 2,000 people who remain stranded in the surrounding area. Last weekend’s typhoon caused Taiwan’s worst flooding for 50 years. In central and southern Taiwan, roads have been washed out, bridges swept away and low-rise buildings sent crashing into rivers. Many mountain villages can only be accessed by air now.

There is absolutely no doubt that in other areas of rescue firmly in the starting blocks when it comes to numbers. Earthquakes are a slightly different matter because the number of entombed remains are minimal even though the fatality count may be extremely high. The biggest problems are tsunami and inland flooding of which tsunami can be a primary cause (where the local and national services are often unprepared for the sheer scale of events). Japan was devastated in July by flooding and mudslides and now Taiwan off the China coast has just experienced the full fury of Typhoon Morakot which dumped 80 to 2 metres of rain in the first week of August 2009. This report from the BBC, and flagged by the ever vigilant Shen Ray involves a mud-slide which is perhaps the most devastating of all flood-related events with virtually no pre-event warning, no time to escape, minimal chance of surviving when it hits and minimal chance of rescue even if the victim manages to survive in a void of which there are usually none in mud. Of course a mudslide is not just mud - it is a sea of very heavy and cohesive material, the sheer crushing mass of this medium settles coupled with a surface that can dry into ‘concrete’ makes even body recovery a nightmare task.

Taiwan mudslide death toll rises

BBC Report
Taiwan’s president says the number of people killed in mudslides and floods caused by a typhoon could exceed 500, almost 400 of them in a single village. Hsinchu was hit by a massive mudslide, but the government had not previously given an estimated total figure for those killed. Speaking at a national security meeting on Friday, President Ma Ying-jeou said the death toll had climbed to 118 but is not set to go higher.

The presidential office has already climbed to 118 but is not set to go higher. The military hopes on Friday to airlift out the nearly 2,000 people who remain stranded in the surrounding area. Last weekend’s typhoon caused Taiwan’s worst flooding for 50 years. In central and southern Taiwan, roads have been washed out, bridges swept away and low-rise buildings sent crashing into rivers. Many mountain villages can only be accessed by air now.

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US Coast Guard’s Rescue 21 system helps rescue two teens. August 10th 2009

B

y harnessing global positioning and cutting-edge communications technology, the US Coast Guard has implemented a major systems acquisition project, offering cutting edge technology to mariners at sea. As in an attic.

The Coast Guard’s Rescue 21 system was dispatched from Air Station Houston and quickly located the boaters. The young men were hoisted from the water and taken to the Lake Charles airport. The Rescue 21 system aided in this rescue by providing communications equipment to include:

• Consoles at Coast Guard Stations and Stations.
• All remote.transceiver sites (antenna towers), as well as the network connecting them to the facilities above.

General Dynamics C4 Systems of Scottsdale, AZ, has been named the production contractor to replace the Coast Guard’s outdated system in the Contiguous 48 States and Hawaii. Due to the unique logistical and operational needs in Alaska, the Coast Guard has assumed the role of system integrator for deployment to stations in Alaska.

Rescue 21 revolutionizes how the Coast Guard uses command, control, and communications for all missions within the coastal areas, the systems:

• where feasible, incorporates direction-finding equipment to improve locating mariners in distress
• improves interoperability amongst federal, state, and local agencies
• enhances clarity of distress calls
• allows simultaneous channel monitoring
• upgraded the playback and recording feature of distress calls
• reduces processing times for coastal communications and along navigable reefs and within harbors
• supports Digital Selective Calling for registered users in the Contiguous 48 States, provides portable transceivers for coordination of communications during emergency and operational disasters.

For more information about Rescue 21, please visit www.t-rescue.com/acquisition/rescue21.
Weber introduce the RS200-107 Heavy Duty Cutter

OPERATING AT 700 bar the new RS200 from Weber Hydraulik, based in Germany and Austria, is an upgrade of the RS170 cutter. It now features a new style of blade for better cutting performance. The RS200 rates in the maximum bar cutting capacity for three out of the five EN categories and one down from the maximum on the remaining two categories making this the perfect balance between size, weight and power. Having been tested on modern cars with their extremely strong protective systems the RS200 has been designed to meet the highest demands of rescuers. The blade overlap minimises the tension build-up during a cut negating the energy-release burst often associated with cutting strengthened materials. RS200’s jaws will span the thick sandwich construction of A,B and C posts and cut through with relative ease. The RS200 uses Weber’s latest SINGLE coupling technology which puts both hoses into one connection making for fast changeovers as well as eliminating kinking. Extremely fine control is achieved with Weber’s throttle-style control at the back of the tool. This has a coloured indicator button to show whether the blade is in either closing or opening mode. As with all Weber tools the handle is in either closing or opening mode.

SPECIFICATIONS:
- Cutting force: 107 tons/kN
- Opening: 200 mm/7.8”
- Weight: 19.3 kg/42.7 lbs
- Length: 818 mm/32.2”
- Width: 265 mm/10.4”
- Round bar: 43mm/1.7”
- EN-Class: BC 190-H-20

Operating at 700 bar the new RS200 from Weber Hydraulik, based in Germany and Austria, is an upgrade of the RS170 cutter. It now features a new style of blade for better cutting performance. The RS200 rates in the maximum bar cutting capacity for three out of the five EN categories and one down from the maximum on the remaining two categories making this the perfect balance between size, weight and power. Having been tested on modern cars with their extremely strong protective systems the RS200 has been designed to meet the highest demands of rescuers. The blade overlap minimises the tension build-up during a cut negating the energy-release burst often associated with cutting strengthened materials. RS200’s jaws will span the thick sandwich construction of A,B and C posts and cut through with relative ease. The RS200 uses Weber’s latest SINGLE coupling technology which puts both hoses into one connection making for fast changeovers as well as eliminating kinking. Extremely fine control is achieved with Weber’s throttle-style control at the back of the tool. This has a coloured indicator button to show whether the blade is in either closing or opening mode. As with all Weber tools the handle is in either closing or opening mode.

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Visitors will now be able to climb the narrow double helix staircase in groups of ten, each lead by a National Park Service ranger, at a rate of about 30 people per hour. Supervisory park ranger Eugene Kuziw noted that in the past the climb to the crown was a long process – some times lasting 90 minutes or more as the line composed of hundreds of visitors wound its way to the top one slow step at a time. Under the new process, the climb will take 20 minutes or less from the bottom of the pedestal to the top, and Kuziw is expecting to see a significant increase in climbing-related medical incidents. Without such training, the park staff would have to wait for assistance from the New York City police or fire departments and that delay could lead to a decrease in a victim’s ability to survive. The RATs are drilling twice weekly in preparation for the July 4th opening before and after visitors arrive, and they practice on their own when time permits. Training has been provided by Rite, the Delaware Water Gap NRA high angle rescue team, and outside specialists, such as the Central Jersey technical rescue team, the Fire Department of the City of New York and Rite Rescue NYC.

One of those training sessions took place on June 17th when a group of NYC firemen came to Liberty Island to demonstrate to the RATs how to use two state-of-the-art pieces of rescue equipment that were donated to the team. “Our old equipment is bulky and can be hard to use, slowing down the rescue process. Thanks to the generosity of Rite Rescue NYC, our rope access team can do its job with maximum safety and ease, which means we can get visitors in distress to safety and medical care quickly,” Kuziw said. www.riterescuene.com
NEW for 2010

Petzl Rig

We couldn’t tell you much about this one beyond what our mate Rob Dunham of Repellent in Oz told us (and supplied the pics right until we spoke to the ever helpful Peli equipment who kindly gave us the full SP). The Rig is due out next year and is designed specifically for professionals used to the Petzl Stop configuration and who maybe found the ID to be a little bulky and expensive for their applications. The Rig doesn’t have the auto-lock or anti reverse cam that the ID has so won’t be applicable to team rescuers but as an individual access tool it could be a significant new introduction.

The self-locking Rig documenter is designed for difficult access work and rescue professionals. It allows the user to access the work station and then easily position himself by using the handle to lock the device in place on the rope. Easy to grasp, this documenter is intuitive and comfortable to use. With its innovative and compact design, the Rig offers a simple, efficient alternative to traditional descenders.

Safety points
- Designed for work on a rope.
- The safety gate on the moving side plate helps prevent dropping the device and facilitates installation of the rope and passing intermediate anchors.
- An additional handle allows the user to:
  - unlock the rope and control the descent with the hand on the free end of the rope.
  - position himself while on the rope without tying off the device.
  - The spring loaded handle returns to the basic position in order to reduce the possibility of instability.
- Handle storage position for when the descender is being carried on the harness.
- The spring loaded handle is perfectly aligned to the rope. Can also be used to make a reversible hang system, and for short ascents (in conjunction with a FEET PRO foot loop and an ASCENSION handled rope clamp).
- A screw (integrated into the back of the device) allows the movement of the rope guide to ensure the RIG can be part of a rescue system.
- A scene integrated into the back of the device allows the moving side plate to be locked so that the RIG can be part of a rescue kit.

Specifications
- Made in France
- 3-year guarantee
- Weight: 340 g
- Colour: yellow 5214
- Black: 5219
- Materials: aluminium side plates - stainless steel cam
- Nylon handles
- For use with single rope 10.5 to 11.5 mm in diameter
- Industrially tested certifications: CE EN 12641 type C
- CE EN 343 class A NFPA 1853
- Light use
- www.petzl.com

Handi-Straps

For enhanced lifting capability

Handi-Straps ™ is an item we learnt about over a year ago and have been awaiting an evaluation set for review. The review is still pending but this is potentially such a useful and astonishingly simple concept that we felt we couldn’t hold off any longer. Handi-Strap is a weight transfer webbing rig that supports the life of the arms with the much stronger capabilities of the shoulders (and leg). It is not so much that lift capability for any one individual is increased but more the improved lumbar safety when lifting weights already attempted by emergency services personnel. Handi-Strap is still available with a double hook attachment to revalue the handles of lifting and holding these handles or sharp objects. The retail cost is £60. but emergency services can expect a reduction on this cost.

Handystrap


d www.handi-straps.com

MX4 iQuad

Industrial Scientific, the global leader in Gas Detection as a Service, introduces the MX4 iQuad™. Able to detect from one to four gases, the MX4 is the latest addition to the company’s line of Wet-ready gas detectors. Wet offers an alternative to buying and maintaining gas detectors. It is a software-based service that increases safety by providing visibility into gas detector alarms, exposure and usage. It keeps gas detectors working without costly and time-consuming maintenance. And with iNet, customers do not have to buy the gas detectors. Instead, they subscribe to iNet and receive Gas Detection as a Service.

Using the MX4 with iNet is a better way to do gas detection. Subscribers avoid the common problems of owning gas detectors. At the same time, users are protected by the MX4’s reliable and user-friendly features. The MX4 is small, rugged and simple to use. A rubber overmold covers its polymer housing to protect the MX4 from high-impact bumps and drops. The housing has also been third-party tested and certified IP66 and IP67. This ingress protection rating indicates that the MX4 is dust-tight and resistant to both water jets and submersion. The MX4 uses a combination of three alarms. Ultra-bright LEDs, a 95 dB audible alarm and a powerful vibrating alarm all warn users of hazardous gas levels.

www.indsci.com

Handi-Straps

See Issue 57 for a more detailed report on HandiStraps
HM Coastguard adopt new
Water Rescue Lifejackets

Coastguard Rescue Officers may be required to enter water to either carry out a rescue or to search. Teams are faced with a wide range of water types and conditions including: Open beaches, sea walls, harbours, Quays, Marinas, banks of rivers and estuaries. Surf, rip currents, tidal flows.

The Water Rescue Lifejacket is based on the Crewsaver SWR Harvester which is used commercially throughout the world. HM Coastguard and Crewsaver worked closely together to develop this product for Coastguard rescue operations. The Water Rescue Lifejacket is a 200N Air/Foam Lifejacket combining DOI of inherent buoyancy with a manually operated inflatable chamber providing an extra 150N of buoyancy, approved to EN396. The Lifejacket is equipped with a number of features developed for HM Coastguard including: integral safety harness, quick release cow’s tail (wire gate harness for the maritime environment) quick release cow’s tail park, quick release pockets on back, gear pocket, gear lash tabs, lanyery and lashing, free draining storage bag, glow stick pocket on back, Gear pocket, Gear lash tabs, lanyery and lashing, free draining storage bag.

This new piece of equipment is a dedicated rescue PFD designed for the environments Coastguards work in. The PFD has two modes: Search and Rescue, as a 150N Novice rescue PFD it will fulfill most roles and rescues. The second mode is Survival, inflated with a combined buoyancy of 200 newtons it will support both rescuer and casualty in demanding conditions, increasing safety.

The project has also developed a floating line system for use with the water rescue Lifejacket. 40 metres of brightly coloured buoyant 12 mm line stored in a custom bag. The bag has no tie off points to maintain a clean line, and the line can be deployed from the bag, attached to the tenders life-jacket. It can also be carried around the waist or back and has a pocket for the straps to allow easy storage.

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Each of the UK’s 400 Coastguard teams is being equipped with the Water Rescue Lifejacket. The Water Rescue Lifejacket is designed specifically for law enforcement personnel with future adaptations to the end user. Here is how it works: FIRM ZONE: Increases energy return and maximizes all-day support. OUTWARD ZONE: Reduces outward tilt and encourages natural walking motion and stability. FUZZY ZONE: Reduces inward tilt and encourages natural walking motion. INWARD ZONE: Reduces inward tilt and encourages natural walking motion and stability. CUSHION ZONE: Increases heel cushioning and maximizes all-day support.

Individual Comfort System line will be available in the European Union countries early 2010. Every individual’s unique, and so are their foot comfort needs. The new adjustable comfort system from Bates can be adjusted for each individual’s unique comfort tastes and requirements. Developed by the Bates Product Design Team and user tested by actual customers, the innovative “buckle” technology offers a truly effective way for consumers to define all-day comfort on their own terms. The comfort system is not only highly flexible, but is easily customizable. The adjustable comfort buckle is built directly into the midsole of the shoe and is easily rotated to rest at one of four zones. Each zone satisfies different comfort needs and allows the user to put comfort anywhere they want it. Here is how it works: FIRM ZONE: Increases energy return and maximizes all-day support. OUTWARD ZONE: Reduces inward tilt and encourages natural walking motion and stability. FUZZY ZONE: Reduces inward tilt and encourages natural walking motion. INWARD ZONE: Reduces inward tilt and encourages natural walking motion and stability. CUSHION ZONE: Increases heel cushioning and maximizes all-day support.

The Bates Individual Comfort System gives the wearer the freedom to customize the comfort of their footwear. By using the new "buckle" technology, each individual can choose the comfort zone that’s right for them. After much success of the launch of this technology in the US, the Individual Comfort System line will be available in the European Union countries early 2010. Every individual’s unique, and so are their foot comfort needs. The new adjustable comfort system from Bates can be adjusted for each individual’s unique comfort tastes and requirements. Developed by the Bates Product Design Team and user tested by actual customers, the innovative “buckle” technology offers a truly effective way for consumers to define all-day comfort on their own terms. The comfort system is not only highly flexible, but is easily customizable. The adjustable comfort buckle is built directly into the midsole of the shoe and is easily rotated to rest at one of four zones. Each zone satisfies different comfort needs and allows the user to put comfort anywhere they want it. Here is how it works: FIRM ZONE: Increases energy return and maximizes all-day support. OUTWARD ZONE: Reduces inward tilt and encourages natural walking motion and stability. FUZZY ZONE: Reduces inward tilt and encourages natural walking motion. INWARD ZONE: Reduces inward tilt and encourages natural walking motion and stability. CUSHION ZONE: Increases heel cushioning and maximizes all-day support.

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Rescue Challenge 2009

United Kingdom Rescue Organisation (UKRO) and Chief Fire Officers Association’s (CFOA) Road Safety Conference
Glasgow, 10 -12 September 2009

This year, the UKRO Annual Rescue Challenge and CFOA Road Safety Conference are being hosted by Strathclyde Fire and Rescue Service and will be held at the highly prestigious Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre (SECC) on the banks of the River Clyde in Glasgow. The whole event is entitled ‘Rescue on the Clyde’ and what an event this promises to be.

UKRO Rescue Challenges.

During Friday 11th and Saturday 12th September, the following rescue challenges will be competed for by most of the UK’s Fire and Rescue Services in or around the SECC.

• Extrication Challenge - only the top twenty teams from Fridays run off will go through to the finals on Saturday. This is a keenly fought challenge and most teams will have commenced training months ago.

• Trauma challenge - a very testing and realistic challenge for teams of two. This event has grown tremendously in popularity over the past two years thanks to the efforts and attention to detail by the team that put this challenge together.

• Rope Rescue Challenge - One of the UKRO’s newer challenges but is highly contested by those Services that have technical rescue or rope rescue teams. Like all events, the teams will be observed and have scores awarded only by UKRO trained assessors.

• Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Challenge - much like rope rescue, this is a new event and this is the first year that teams will be in competition with each other rather than giving demonstrations as in years gone by. As well as the above challenges, teams are invited to attend up to three workshops which will be presented by experts from UKRO, they are

• LGV and PSV Learning Symposium - teams will be updated with regards design and materials used in the manufacture of Large Goods Vehicles and the problems these present to firefighters.

• New Vehicle Technologies Learning Symposium - events will be brought up to date with modern construction methods, safety devices and systems incorporated into modern vehicles.

• Hybrid Vehicle Learning Symposium - those attending will be given cutting edge advice on how to deal with such incidents.

Over 500 firefighters will attend this event and some teams will be lucky enough to be presented with awards on Saturday evening at one of the SECC’s theatres. Whilst the friendly rivalry is important and enjoyable, the real winners are those people, who whilst unfortunate that they need to call upon the resources of the UK’s Fire and Rescue Services, find themselves being dealt with by firefighters who have taken part in a challenge, or attended a workshop and have spent months honing their skills, those firefighters that have levels of skills way beyond what they would have been had they not taken part.

For further information visit www.theemergencyservicesshow2009.com

The complex nature of today’s emergencies makes it essential for the industry to work together to ensure a co-ordinated response.

Now in its fourth year, The Emergency Services Show is leading the way in effectively promoting multi-agency co-operation. It is made up of three main areas:

• The free Exhibition of over 300 specialist equipment suppliers and service providers – providing access to the latest technology and innovations

• The free Networking Zone, made up of the Emergency Response service providers – providing access to the latest technology and innovations

• The free Learning Zone – including operational and strategic planning

For further information visit www.theemergencyservicesshow2009.com
Police, firemen and paramedics refused to go to the aid of an acutely injured victim who was crying out to them from a 15ft bank in the shallow water because they believed it was too dangerous.

A senior fire officer banned his men from using ropes and ladders to climb down a 15ft bank to the aid of a victim who was crying out to them from a 15ft bank in the shallow water because they believed it was too dangerous.

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Being Legislated out of Rescue

...the Public Perception

Ade Scott reacts

The daily life of our mobile-rescue system takes a constant fruit and skin lesion in the region that it has been a great deal of a challenge. We are continually trying to prove our skills and abilities, to our colleagues and to the public. This must proceed to continue causing concern of all parties being strung by public and legislation.

Ade Scott, a former TRU smoke chief and a long-time rescue officer, writes about the difficulties faced by rescue services and the impact of legislation.

In the Jordan Lyon case that initially highlighted the issue, H&SE was in the forefront of the debate, and the impact of legislation was significant. In the case of the Lyon case, the incident because it was deemed too much of a threat to life. I begged to differ. This decision was the result of a poorly-executed health & Safety assessment, which is particularly prevalent in US fire departments. An officer was duly dismissed, having been raised to the incident are nothing new in the UK fire service and that public perception of the service is often more important than first responders. However, even in the case of major incidents, the public is aware of the dangers to their job. And if you do have new situations about any case in question, the incident is too many and if the safety measures can improve rescue planning, that’s a good thing in the same line...

If health and safety measures protect rescuers at the expense of the lives of people needing rescue then something is badly wrong.

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Included in their water assets is this Airboat - see issue 57 of TRm for a full review mounted posse, winter rescue, off-highway vehicle extrication and canine.

Above: Weber County Sheriff Search & Rescue is a multi-discipline team comprised of almost nine times a week, according to figures obtained by the WMN under Freedom of Information laws.

But critics said only the most serious incidents involving large animals, technical entrapments and obese humans are concerned. Costs to taxpayer only occur where the fire crews involved are retained (part-time) which in the UK involves a payment per callout and this could well be the case with rural brigades like Cornwall, Devon and Somerset. Nevertheless, we need to get away from this nonsensical attitude that any full time firefighter on call other than a fire or vehicle extraction is using up valuable resources and is being distracted from a possible life-threatening call - believe me, if any incident occurs while a crew is engaged in getting a cat out of a tree or a dog out of a hole they will immediately prioritise and get there.

In the case of the volunteer sector operating on acall-out basis - RMLH, mobile rescue, mountain rescue, cave rescue etc and countless teams that may well be an argument for ‘trivial’ calls costing money since all these folk have day jobs that have to be left to attend a call. Even here though, most will say they want to go regardless of how ‘trivial’ the call, that’s why they joined rescue.

Back to the full-time services and the other thing to consider is the ‘wasting of taxpayers’ money’ argument, that just how much money is wasted on everything from inefficient management, inappropriate equipment purchases, to smoke alarm installations and checks that should have been civilised decades ago. £1.2 million in five years for animal rescues is an exaggerated figure that doesn’t take into account the costs involved in the same period of the same fire crews doing absolutely nothing. I suspect the actual costs would be in the hundreds of thousands in the case of retained crews and if these were whole time crews then probably only a few thousand for fuel, equipment and overtime!

The fire service is here to serve and aside from the perennial lay-aliquth that every watch/station seems to battle I mean about anything that drags them away from the Te, crews actually WANT to get out and help. If you really want to question where tax payer’s money is being wasted there are plenty of other more tangible culprits.

ADE SCOTT
Having previously mentioned that Reed would be in the UK & Europe in the
upcoming months, we managed to persuade him that a winter in the UK pension was
a good idea of fun so we’ve now finalised dates in the much more climate friendly
Autumn we managed to persuade him that a winter in the UK was nobody’s
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If you want to learn the art of team and/or personal rescue rigging from one of the world’s most
knowledgeable, charismatic and experienced experts
email us now for course availability
Courses are 7-days of intense learning with only
10-places per course so there is plenty of
opportunity for ‘face’-time with Reed.
Prices do not include accommodation or food but
these are available at very reasonable rates nearby
- our info pack will detail the options.

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FEATURES

ROPE RESCUE: Edelrid’s 3D Harness Safety Review
ROPE RESCUE: High Performance

Kneeling Rescue System

Trauma

Singing Rock Rescue Knife

First Responder to Trench Rescue by Guy Brown

Gear Reviews

SEARCH & RESCUE

National Park Service rope

training in Tennessee

Doc Stewart Boyd

reported on a vicious looking trench trauma where the victim was
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Stathis Aravamidas has just received his
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study into risk assessment for water
rescue - both the victims and the res-
cuers. His other disconcerting title was
The Multidimensional 4W Model of
Lifesaving Risk Assessment in Aquatic Environments.

Two Gear Reviews this issue - the first
was of Singing Rock’s short-lived foray
into rescue knives and we reviewed this under the same cri-
terion as the previous issue’s Back to Back on Rescue
Knives. This gave us an actual score for the knife which
could then be compared back to the previous 4 or 5 mod-
els. The larger review was of Sealine’s excellent ProPack
and DufFea for water rescue. These are
fine products that we still use today.

What turned out to be Jim Segerstrom’s
final article for us was part 9 of his
massive series on Swellwater & Flood
and focused on Boat Operations. Jim
did all his own diagrams for these arti-
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series would have made a magnificent book.

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www.t-empire.com

Back issues

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Two Gear Reviews this issue - the first
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terion as the previous issue’s Back to Back on Rescue
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could then be compared back to the previous 4 or 5 mod-
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fine products that we still use today.

What turned out to be Jim Segerstrom’s
final article for us was part 9 of his
massive series on Swellwater & Flood
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Go to:
www.t-rescue.com

Back issues

Printed in Autumn 2006
Issue 48 was not our
favorite cover as it turned
out because the colours got
a bit washed out at print, it
looked far better on screen,
much vibrant greens and
contrasting yellow on the
rescuer and the A-frame.
The issue number was also
a bit lost in the pale back-
ground - it does say 48,
however.

The front page article from Rob Turner’s article on
National Park Service rope training in Tennessee
Doc Stewart Boyd

reported on a vicious looking trench trauma where the victim was
impaired by his own spade as he tried to
fend off the collapsing trench wall. The result
was a brutal thoraco-Abdominal
trauma. Nettcare paramedics Wayne Thompson, Air crew Calvin
Heuer and our own Doc Boyd give a detailed timeline analy-
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Every issue we have an idea of what we would like to see on the front cover and every issue something else seems to come in at the last minute to change our minds. We sometimes have to stretch the link a bit thin to justify a cover we like for instance the mud rescue cover on 51 which only had a gallery page to justify such a prominent cover and in the end didn’t reproduce as well as we would have liked.

Prior to our head-on ambulance shot from Ontario we were sure that the Cornish Search & Rescue team shot (top right) would be perfect for issue 55 as they were the subject of our Team Profile. However, it turned out that the only version available was too low a resolution to make the grade - this was a big disappointment because we loved the dark greens and black. Our fall back cover was another fine shot from Reed’s collection which are always magnificent because the rocks of Sedona, Arizona are so photogenic. We also considered one of mine - a shot of an RNLI Beach rescue vehicle on Watergate Bay the great surfing beach in North Cornwall - we could justify this one because our Vehicle Gallery was Surf 4x4s and we did in fact use this shot to illustrate a British Surf Rescue vehicle in contrast to the other ones featured which were from the US.

In the end, Ivan submitted the ambulance shot with his article on dealing with epilepsy and because we had recently had rope rescue and water rescue we thought a medical wouldn’t go amiss. Plus we really like the in yer-face look which we felt matched the style of the previous two covers.

The previous issue, 54 had no such variation - we knew the cover was going to be a robot we just couldn’t decide which. The Team article was GHOST a specialist team provided by Qinetiq to fire services and transport authorities to deal with hazardous materials and provide real-time intel. The two shots bottom right featured Black Max and Bison and were the obvious choice because they were used the most. However, I’d recently been working with special forces in the Middle East and had a hankering to feature SWORD an overtly combat rather than rescue platform but a tough beast that could easily be reconfigured I put it to the peer review lads and luckily they agreed that it looked the punchiest. Phew!