

Häst Rescue Frames

Preface

Safety: This should be the first and last word in any rescue environment. This is particularly true of equipment that is overhead. The potential for injury from rigging failure is extremely high. At a minimum, personnel should be equipped with certified helmets. In addition, there should be a clear understanding of all the forces involved and the potential points for rigging failure. Finally, all rigging should be inspected, multiple times if necessary, to identify any deficiencies.

Häst Rescue Frames can be configured in any of three different configurations. The tripod is set up to be a standalone platform for a vertical lift. This is particularly useful in areas where distant rigging is not possible, or if the load does not have to be moved far from the center. With over 18 feet of usable vertical height, it gives plenty of room for slings along with mechanical advantage pulley systems. If the rescue load needs to be moved horizontally a considerable distance, as in an animal trapped in a swimming pool or in a deep ravine, one should choose the bipod configuration. A bipod, extended to full height, has the potential to move an animal up to 24 feet horizontally. Finally, if the rescue requires a single fixed point in the air, and the ground terrain or other close structures preclude the use of either a tripod or bipod, one can configure a monopod. While the monopod can be allowed to be tilted up and down in a single direction, a considerable amount of attention must be made to the rigging to maintain stability. However, even with some limitations, the monopod can be a valuable asset in some rescue scenarios.

Häst Rescue Frames are designed to be versatile with interchangeable parts. For example, if a rescue squad owns a tripod, all of the parts, with the exception of the heads, can be used to construct either a bipod or monopod. The frames are also very strong and relatively light weight, with all parts made of 6061-T6 aluminum. In addition, much of the strength is derived from the design which places welded seams in a mechanical state of either shear or compression. The following pages will detail the procedures for construction for each of the three frame configurations along with rigging best practices to rescue an animal safely and effectively.