

## TWO RESCUER FIREFIGHTER REMOVALS UP / DOWN STAIRWAY

### Method #1: Two-Rescuer Removal up a Stairway



Figure A

- Convert the distressed firefighter's SCBA into a harness. Rescuer #1 drags the unconscious firefighter to the base of the stairway so that he/she is face up (supine position), and about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a body length on the stairway. (See Figure A)
- Rescuer #2 positions himself/herself on their hands and knees at the feet of the unconscious firefighter.
- Rescuer #2 (who is at the victim's feet) places both the victim's legs over both of his/her shoulders. Rescuer #2 will wrap his/her arms around the top of the legs and place his/her chin as close to the victim's groin as possible to maintain a good grip on the victim. Rescuer #2 must keep his/her chin in the victim's groin throughout this carry. Failure to do so will result in a loss of leverage. (See Figure B)
- Rescuer #1 positions himself/herself on the stairs at the head of the victim. He/she loosens one or both SCBA shoulder straps to provide a handle to pull on in order to lift the victim's head and shoulders up the stairs.
- Once both rescuing firefighters are in position, Rescuer #2 (who has the victim's legs over his/her shoulders and has his/her chin in the victim's groin) drives with his/her legs to a standing position. At the same time, Rescuer #1 lifts on the shoulder straps of the SCBA to lift the head and shoulders of the victim off the stairs. (See Figure C)



Figure B

- Both rescuing firefighters now go up the stairs in unison. The rescuing firefighter at the feet must move at the pace of the rescuing firefighter at the head, as the tendency is for him/her to move faster than the rescuing firefighter at the head.



Figure C

## Method #2: Rope Pull up the Stairs

If conditions in the area are so severe as to prevent the members from standing, or if the weight of the unconscious member prevents the members from performing method #1, it may be necessary to utilize other methods. Rescuers should consider the following as possible alternate methods.

- Position the victim in the supine position with the head of the victim higher than his/her feet.
- One end of a life saving rope is brought down to the victim's location. The end of a life saving rope or a personal rope is passed through the shoulder straps of the SCBA after it has been converted to a harness. The snap-hook of the Life Saving Rope is then hooked back on the Life Saving Rope.
- The signal to haul is given to members at the top of the stairs (these members might be located outside the danger area). The rescuers with the unconscious member then guide the victim up the stair, lifting only the head and shoulders.

An alternate method to the above procedure would be to form a bight in the rope before it is brought down the stairs. The rope is then passed through the shoulder straps of the SCBA, and then brought back up the stairs. The benefit of this method is that there are now two ropes that can be used by hauling firefighters at the top of the stairway.