

Rapid Packaging Strap

ADAPT & OVERCOME TRAINING, LLC

Instructions For Use

For many years now a preferred method for packaging and injured and/or unconscious firefighter in need of removal from an IDLH has been to convert the waist-belt of an SCBA into a make shift harness. This method, while simple has proved over years to be time consuming and ever more difficult as SCBA manufactures redesign their products. Waist belts have become shorter and carry more devices than ever before. The first intention of the RPS was to create a strap which could replace the waist-belt conversion. After hearing of multiple instances where the waist-belt was too short, or the seatbelt buckle came apart during a lift or move. The RPS can save time and completely eliminate the waist-belt from the equation. The beauty of the RPS is its adaptability. There is no one way to use it and the options listed here are suggested uses.

Option 1: Shoulder Strap Connections Works well for FF's under 6'

In Option 1 we use the RPS to capture the lower half of the FF's body by connecting one end of the RPS to a shoulder strap, traveling the strap between the legs and then connecting in to the other shoulder strap. Cinch the strap tight and you are complete. This completely eliminates the waist-belt from the equation. The cinch buckles of the shoulder straps are easy connection points however, if used beware that by putting the tension on the buckle in this way it can loosen the shoulder strap up when dragging. A better option is to connect the RPS into the shoulder strap itself.



In **Fig. 1** a modified version of this is shown. The RPS is used to girth hitch the shoulder straps together. Then the strap is run between the legs, brought around and clipped back into itself, **Fig. 2**. In **Fig. 3** the RPS is clipped to the FF's right shoulder strap, run between the legs and connected to the left shoulder strap on his backside.







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Option 2: Waist-belt Connections Works well for tall or large FFs.

Connecting the RPS to the waist-belt of the SCBA while running it between the legs. The cinch buckles of the waist-belt are easy connection points, **Fig. 4**. However, if used beware that by putting the tension on the buckle in this way it can loosen the waist-belt up. A better option is to connect the RPS into the waist-belt itself.



Option 3: Waist-belt Seat

Another option is to use the RPS to create a seat harness in concert with the SCBA's waist-belt. Keep in mind this is NOT A RATED HARNESS and the RPS is only one part of this system. The entire system will rely on its weakest point and for many SCBA's this will be the waist-belt buckle. If the buckle comes undone the whole system will fail.







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Option 5: Mixed Use

Shoulder strap, waist-belt...the RPS will do what you want or need it to do in order to make a quick capture of the lower half of the body and begin removal.



Option 5: Simple Drag Strap

A quick and basic drag. The RPS is placed over the chest, under the arms and brought behind the head to capture the victim's body. Good for FF's and civilians.



