



Rescue  
Competent  
Person (RCP)

Introduction



**KES**

**KARY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES INC.**

"THE KEY TO YOUR ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS"

# Rope Technician Overview



## Rescue Competent Person (RCP) Level

The RCP represents the progression beyond the Rescue Technician (RT) Level. While the RT Level emphasizes team-based rescue operations commonly encountered in confined spaces, the RCP Level expands to include both team and solo high-angle rope rescue, along with a practical understanding of rigging physics. Additionally, the RCP possesses enhanced scene management skills and the ability to identify and address unsafe conditions.

Although the likelihood of conducting a vertical rescue exceeding 60 degrees of elevation during a rope rescue is low, the possibility remains. Therefore, it is highly recommended that all team leaders obtain RCP Level certification.

This recommendation serves two purposes:

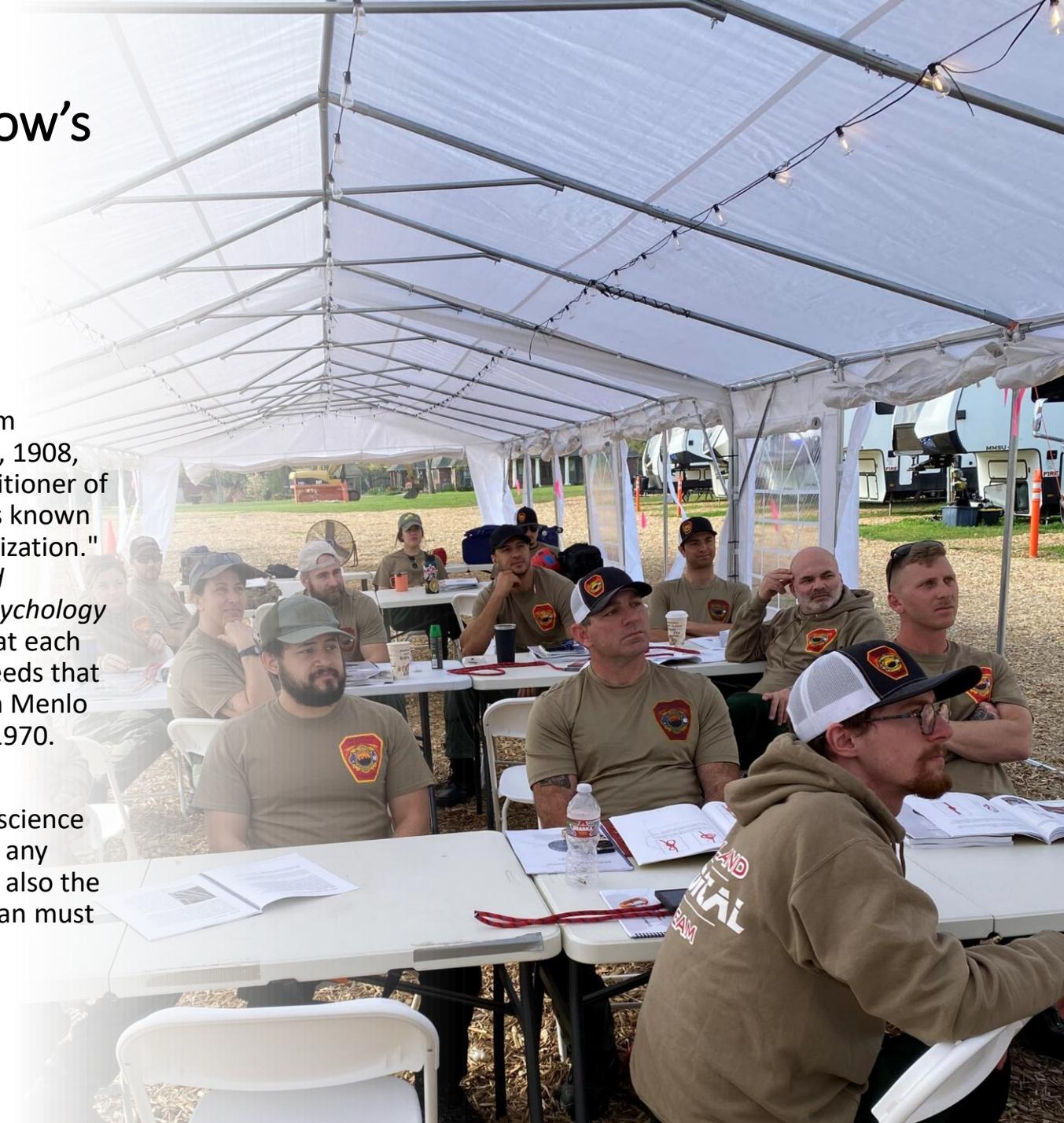
1. Ensuring a team member is present who can identify more complex work environments that require advanced rigging skills, and
2. Enhancing the rigging proficiency of any certified member, regardless of the specific environmental conditions. This contributes significantly to boosting the team's overall confidence and professionalism.

Completion of the RT Level is a prerequisite for advancement to the RCP Level.

# Abraham Maslow's Four Stages of Conscience Competence

Famed psychologist Abraham Maslow was born on April 1, 1908, Brooklyn, New York. A practitioner of humanistic psychology, he is known for his theory of "self-actualization." In the books *Motivation and Personality* and *Toward a Psychology of Being*, Maslow argued that each person has a hierarchy of needs that must be satisfied. He died in Menlo Park, California, on June 8, 1970.

Maslow's four stages of conscience competence is applicable to any journeyman skill set. This is also the journey a true rope technician must travel.





# Abraham Maslow's Four Stages of Conscience Competence

## **Stage One:**

### Unconscious Incompetence

The practitioner does not understand a given skill. More so, the individual doesn't even recognize this skill deficit, and often denies the usefulness of the skill. Before moving to a higher level of learning, the individual must own the incompetence, and find value in the new skill.

# Abraham Maslow's Four Stages of Conscience Competence

## Stage Two:

### Conscious Incompetence

The practitioner now acknowledges this skill deficit and finds motivation to better understand and learn the skill.





# Abraham Maslow's Four Stages of Conscience Competence

## **Stage Three:**

### Conscious Competence

Although not yet considered a subject matter expert, through substantial study, the practitioner starts to acquire a working knowledge of the skill.

# Abraham Maslow's Four Stages of Conscience Competence

## Stage Four:

### Unconscious Competence

Through a career commitment to the skill, the practitioner finally reaches the level of a subject matter expert. So much so, the practitioner has committed the precise and expedient outcome of the skill to muscle memory...this practitioner is truly *unconsciously competent*.



# How and Why

Just knowing *how* minimizes one's ability to perform especially when circumstances create adverse or unexpected situations, environments and challenges.

A rescuers knowledge of *why* enables an extraordinary ability to predict, perceive, adapt to and operate efficiently in adverse situations.



# Catastrophic Failures

Catastrophic failures simply do not just happen.

Almost always, the failure is the result of several minor oversights, assumptions and misconceptions in the chain of competence.

The RCP must possess the ability to work within the chain of competence, perceive the potential for a system failure, then, change the path so that the catastrophic event never happens.



# What is Technical Rope Rescue

- It is a transportation and/or environmental challenge, requiring the movement of extremely valuable loads.
- Many times, it involves rope and rigging.
- *Usually*, time is of the essence.
- Requires highly practiced skills.
- Requires a high degree of efficiency in movement.
- Safety of all involved is paramount.

*Technical Rope Rescue is a Trade*

