

Rope Technician Litter Configurations

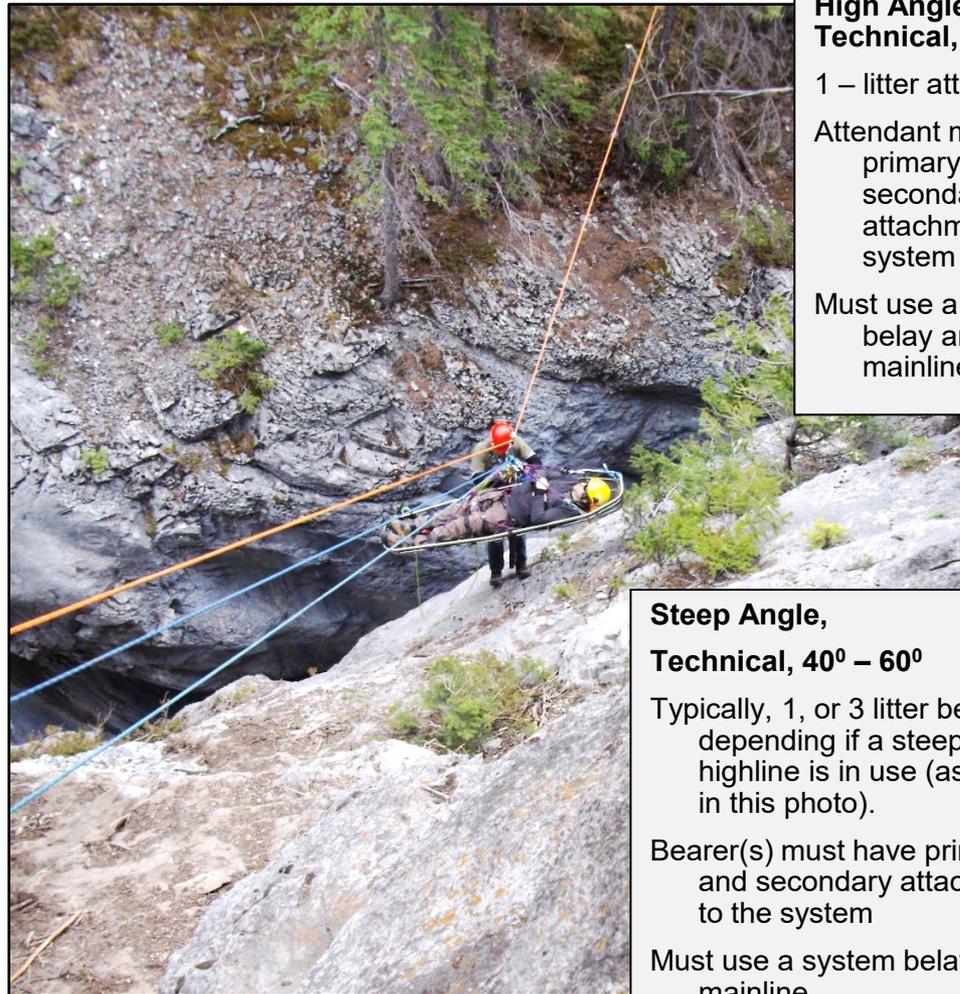
RCP and RQP Levels



Technician Level Litter Configurations

As with all aspects of rope rescue, depending of which school you adhere to, there are many ways to rig the litter package. To stay consistent with the underlying theme of this book, *keep it simple and applicable*, we will focus on one type of connection for the litter, namely, the use of the *Doubled Long Tail Bowline*. This will be the connecting loop, or *yoke*, for high angle vertical configurations as well as steep angle horizontal configurations.

The Type of Terrain Determines the Litter Configuration



High Angle, Technical, 60° – 90°

1 – litter attendant

Attendant must have primary and secondary attachments to the system

Must use a system belay and a mainline.

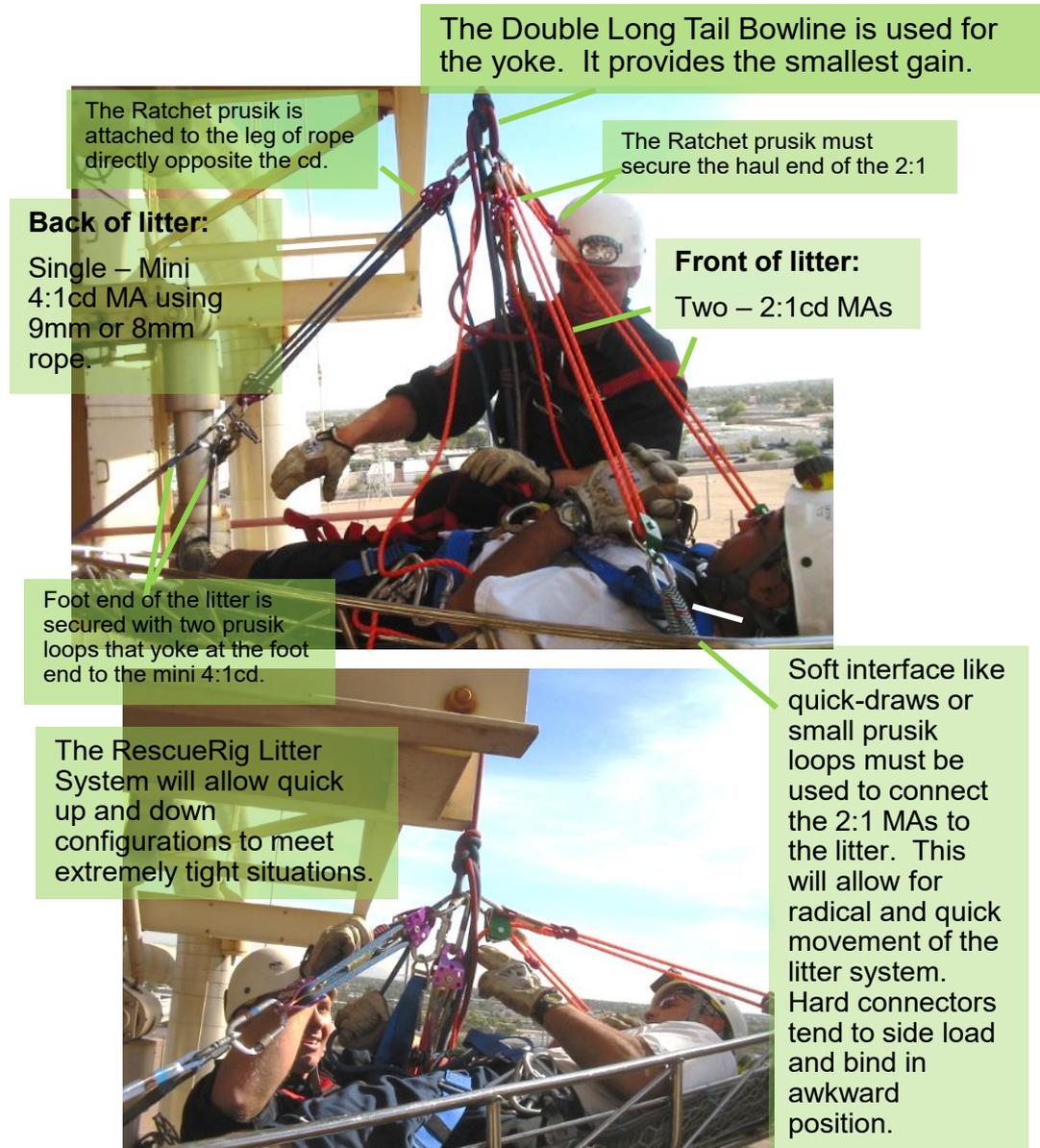
Steep Angle, Technical, 40° – 60°

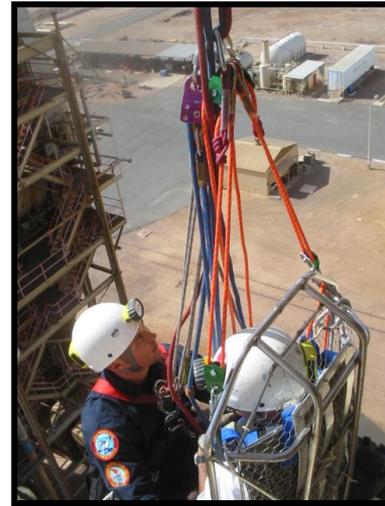
Typically, 1, or 3 litter bearers, depending if a steep angle highline is in use (as seen in this photo).

Bearer(s) must have primary and secondary attachments to the system

Must use a system belay and a mainline.

High Angle Litter Configuration Using 2:1cd Front Legs





The RescueRig Litter System allows for an endless array of configuration possibilities that can safely, quickly, and easily be manipulated by a single attendant.

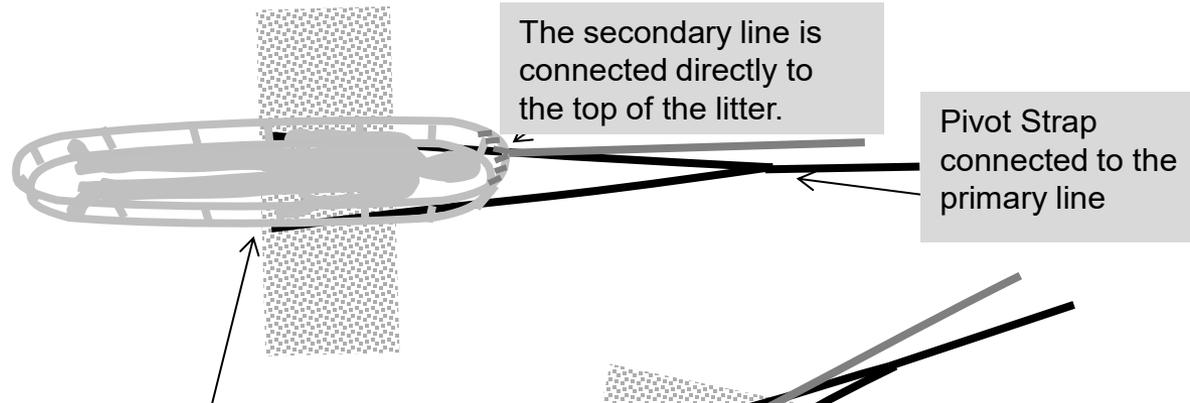


Pike and Pivot with a Twin-Tension System

The concept of the Pike and Pivot Rescue has predominately revolved around the use of the litter basket. The key factor is in the rigging of a pivot point at the middle of the basket that allows the basket to hinge at the edge. However, although most practitioners have focused on the use of the litter basket, the pike and pivot technique is equally valuable as a tool when used with other patient adjuncts like the Yate's Spec-pak. The ability to rig a pivot point is also useful with elevated anchors (i.e. Vortex or TerrAdaptor) while negotiating handrails and other obstacles at the edge. The process depicted in this section will work going up or down; simply reverse the steps.



Pike and Pivot *Continued...*



The secondary line is connected directly to the top of the litter.

Pivot Strap connected to the primary line

The pivot strap is connected to the litter at approximately the halfway point of the frame. For 'down' operations down rope both lines until the pivot point is at the edge. Stop the primary (pivot strap line) and continue lowering the secondary line connected to the top of the litter. This will hinge the basket to a vertical position. Stop the secondary line and start lowering the pivot line. Once the secondary line is the edge continue down with both lines.

For 'up' operations, stop the secondary line once the top of the litter is at the edge and continue with the pivot line until the pivot point is at the edge then simply pivot the litter over the top.

The pivot strap is typically a doubled 20" section of webbing, tied in the middle with two 10' legs.

This can also be accomplished by tying a Portuguese Bowline. The length of the pivot strap legs is somewhat arbitrary. 10' legs have always worked well, however, shorter versions half as long, have been equally successful.