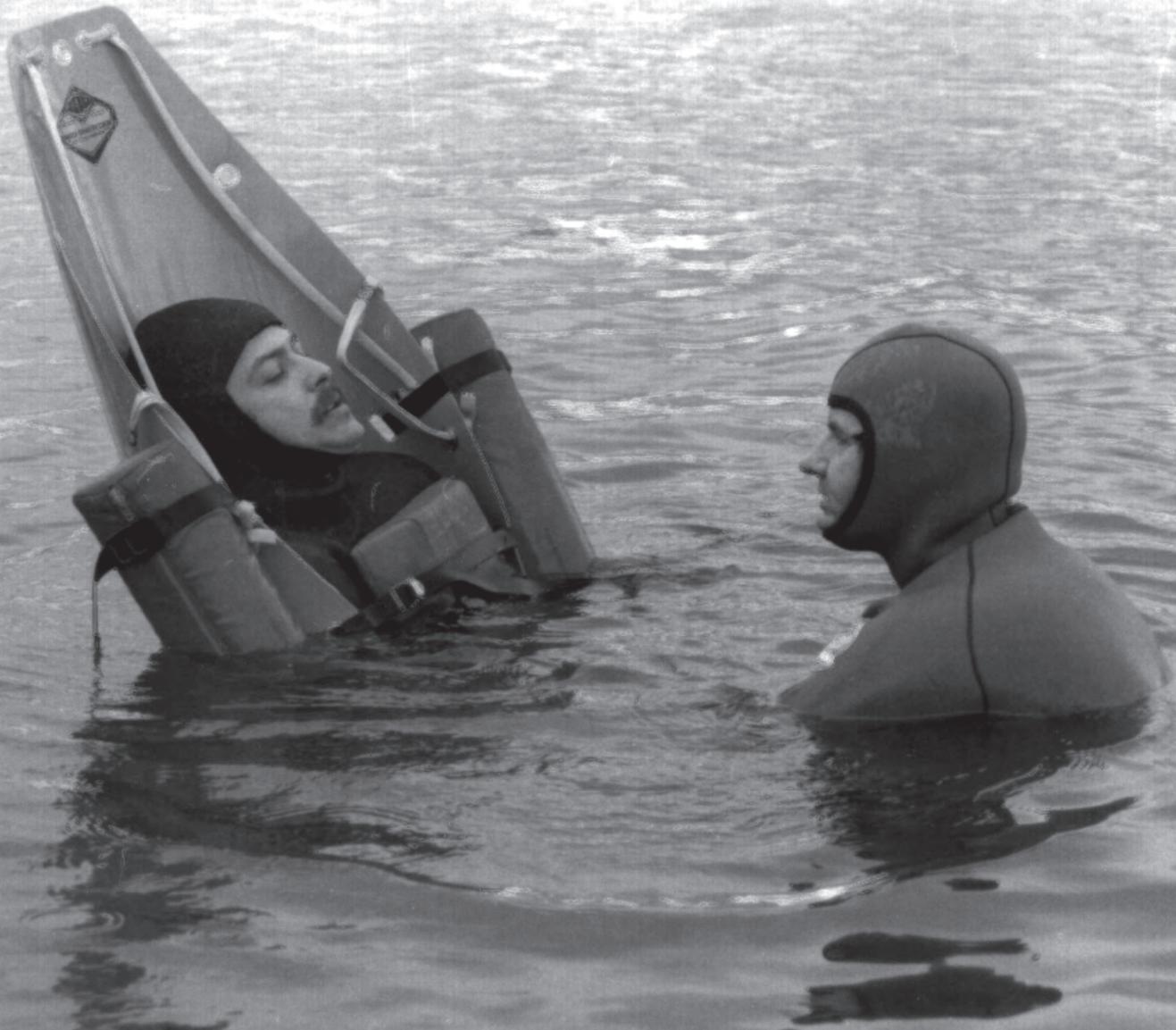


THE SKED[®] RESCUE SYSTEM

NATIONAL (NATO) STOCK NUMBER: NSN 6530-01-260-1227



FLOTATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please Post In Your Training Area

SKED RAPID DEPLOYMENT FLOATATION SYSTEM

Thank you for your purchase of the Sked Rapid Deployment Flotation System. This system is designed to provide the fastest water rescue of any litter flotation system on the market. It consists of a Sked Stretcher, pre-rigged with inflatable floats and ballast, rolled loosely in a duffel type bag. In operation, the bag is unzipped, cross straps tightened, and floats inflated. The Sked can then be put in the water. Patient packaging and retrieval using this system may be accomplished in as little as one minute.

Please read these instructions carefully and practice the procedures in water rescue simulations, to be sure you can perform a rescue when the need arises. These instructions are not a substitute for the Sked Stretcher instructions. You should be thoroughly familiar with all instructions before attempting to use the Sked Rapid Deployment System.

If you have purchased a complete Sked Rapid Deployment System, it will be pre-rigged and ready for use. If you have purchased the Rapid Deployment Conversion Kit for your existing Sked Stretcher, however, it will be necessary to assemble and pre-rig the system prior to use. In either case, it is critical that all components be assembled properly.

INFLATABLE FLOAT LOGS

Skedco Inc. manufactures flotation equipment for the SKED® and other stretchers to improve their usefulness and versatility. Standard SKED® flotation utilizes closed cell foam for float logs on each side of the stretcher, an inflatable chest pad, and a lead weighted ballast bag for the foot end. This configuration insures that the SKED® stretcher will always float nearly vertically, with the patient's head out of the water, even in the most volatile water conditions.

At the request of the military and other agencies interested in light weight and portability, Skedco Inc. developed an inflatable float option. This option differs from the standard flotation in two ways:

- The floats consist of inflatable bladders, with a built-in C-O2 inflation system; and
- The ballast bag does not contain lead - it must be filled with rocks, dirt or similar material in the field.

The inflatable float logs are made of a tough, heat sealable urethane material, with a tough nylon outer shell which is coated for strength and durability. Each log has a C-O2 rapid inflator and an oral inflator. The quick dump valve will deflate the float log in seconds for rapid breakdown and storage, and it also serves as an "over-pressure" valve to prevent over inflation. The chest pad features an oral inflator, usually one breath of air is necessary. All materials are mildew resistant and are the highest quality available.

If a small amount of air is needed in the floats to achieve neutral buoyancy in underwater rescues or applications, the oral inflator can be used. The oral inflator can also be used to fill the floats when necessary. Each float can be inflated with about four breaths of air. The oral inflator has a spring loaded safety valve which must be depressed to add or release air. There is a locking ring to prevent the accidental release of air.

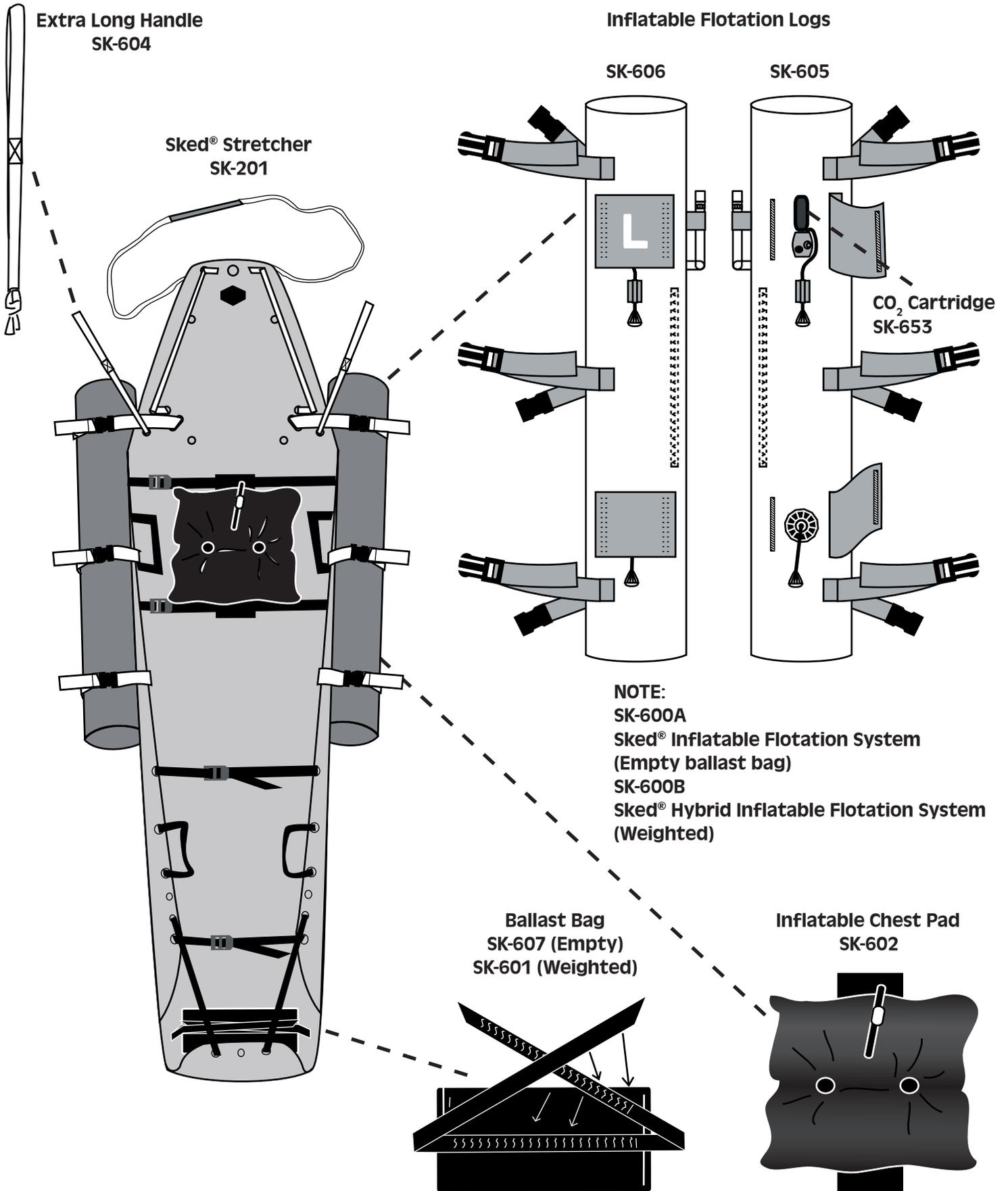
Caution: do not fully inflate the floats with the C-O2 inflators while deep in the water. It will cause the stretcher to surface too quickly causing injury to the patient.

Skedco flotation model numbers and options

SK-600-GR	Skedco foam flotation System, Camouflage
SK-600-OR	Skedco foam flotation System, International Orange
SK-600A	Skedco Inflatable flotation System, (Empty Ballast Bag)
SK-600B	Skedco Hybrid flotation System, (Inflatable Floats, Full Ballast Bag)
SK-650-GR	Skedco Rapid Deployment Water Rescue System, Camouflage
SK-650-OR	Skedco Rapid Deployment Water Rescue System, International Orange
SK-655	Extra long lifting handles (used for lifting from water)

Contact skedco for details regarding any flotation option

SK-600 FLOTATION SYSTEM FOR SKED® STRETCHER



ASSEMBLY AND PRE-RIGGING OF THE RAPID DEPLOYMENT SYSTEM

1. Unroll the Sked® Stretcher and back roll it so that it lays flat, as shown in the Sked® Stretcher instruction booklet.
2. Attach the inflatable float logs to the sides of the Sked® by passing the female parts of each buckle through the slots that are parallel to the side of the Sked®. Then bring the male part of the buckle around the side of the Sked® and attach to the female part. Be sure that the end of each float, with the CO2 detonator and the Oral Inflator, is at the head end of the Sked®. The float logs are marked "right" and "left," so be sure that the "right" float is on the patient's right side.
3. Attach the two long extra webbing handles by passing them through the unused grommets in the shoulder area of the Sked®, from the outside in.
4. Place the ballast bag containing 15 pounds of lead shot inside the foot end of the Sked® between the two grommets. Pass the velcro straps on the ballast bag through the grommets from the inside out, around the sides, and back up over the bag, attaching to the velcro on the bag.
5. Fasten the two lower cross straps on the Sked® to the buckles on the opposite side. Do not tighten the straps; allow the stretcher to remain flat.
6. Pass the two upper cross straps through the webbing loops at the ends of the chest pad and fasten them to the buckles on the opposite side. All cross straps should be fastened loosely enough to allow the Sked® to lay flat.
7. Pass the ends of the two foot straps through the open grommets on the lower sides, bring them back and through the buckles sewn to the foot straps. Tighten these straps until the foot end of the Sked® is pulled up into a toboggan shape.
8. The Sked® is now pre-rigged for rapid deployment. To store the pre-rigged Sked® Rapid Deployment System, simply roll it up from the foot end to about a 12 inch diameter. Be sure not to allow the deflated floats to extend out over the edge of the Sked®. Failure to prevent this can result in damaged float bladders. DO NOT PLACE ANY STRAP AROUND THE ROLLED-UP SKED®.
9. Place the prepared system in the Rapid Deployment Bag and close the zippers.

USE OF THE SKED® RAPID DEPLOYMENT SYSTEM

1. Open the zippers on the Rapid Deployment Bag all the way.
2. Hold the head end of the Sked® and unroll it to its full length.
3. Pull the bottom (foot end) cross strap up tight and the second strap to about 4 inches from tight.
4. Pull the top two cross straps about half way, so that the sides are vertical.
5. Inflate both float logs by pulling the inflator ball on each float.
6. Inflate the chest pad orally. One to two breaths will be enough.
7. Tuck the long extra handles between the float and the stretcher, to keep them out of the way during the packaging procedure, yet easy to get to when needed for pulling the stretcher from the water.
8. The Sked® is now ready for a water rescue. Follow the Sked® Rescue System Flotation Instructions in completing the water rescue.

INFLATABLE FLOTATION LOGS INSTRUCTIONS

The Sked® float logs can be inflated either before or after attachment to the sked® or other litter.

TO INFLATE:

Pull on the inflator Ball and the C-O2 cylinder is activated to fill the floats. Do not remove the C-O2 cylinder from the detonator until you have a replacement cylinder for it. It will allow the float to deflate if missing.

TO USE THE ORAL INFLATOR:

Turn the locking ring to allow the end to be depressed. Press the rubber tip against your teeth to open the valve and blow into it. When the desired amount of air is inside the float, release the inflator and secure the locking ring.

TO DEFLATE:

Pull the ball attached to the dump valve and squeeze the float until deflated.

REPAIRING SKEDCO FLOTATION BLADDARS:

On occasion a float bladder gets damaged. When this happens do not throw the float away.

Skedco has repair kits available.

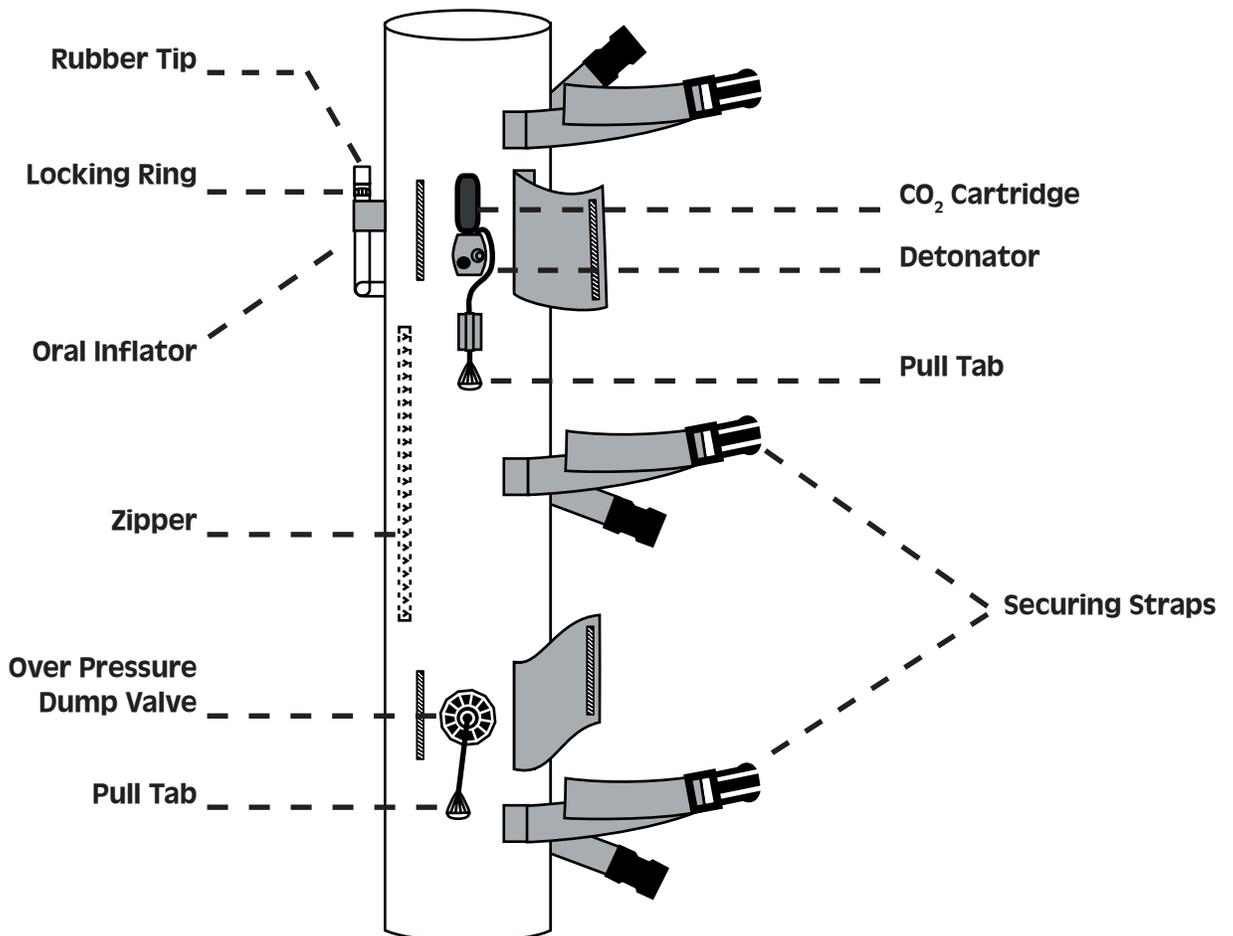
TO USE:

Open the zipper on the float. Carefully pull the urethane bladder out through the zipper opening. It is not usually necessary to remove the inflator valve; but if you do, replace the gasket if it leaks upon reassembly. Locate the hole and apply cement to the area the same size as the patch and to the patch. Let it dry until tacky and place the patch onto the damaged material. Press it firmly into place. Wait an hour or so to use.

*****NOTE*****

Be sure to rinse all rescue equipment with fresh water after using it in salt water!

INFLATABLE FLOTATION LOG DETAIL



THE SKED® RESCUE SYSTEM FLOTATION INSTRUCTIONS

SKEDCO has added a new dimension in litter flotation by developing a system, which enables the SKED® stretcher to float nearly vertically.

Vertical flotation prevents the possibility of patient drowning due to capsizing. The SKED® stretcher will not float face down. It is self-righting when upended.

Flotation of the SKED® stretcher is accomplished with a pair of 6-inch diameter Ethafoam logs and an inflatable chest pad. The Ethafoam floats and inflatable chest

pad provide approximately 70 pounds of flotation. In order to make the SKED® float vertically we use a 15-pound ballast, made of lead shot in a nylon bag. The ballast is attached to the SKED® with nylon straps and Velcro.

In order to lift the SKED® from the water, we provide you with two extra-long webbing handles. They are inserted through unused grommets in the shoulder area.

PRE-RIGGING THE SKED® FOR WATER RESCUE

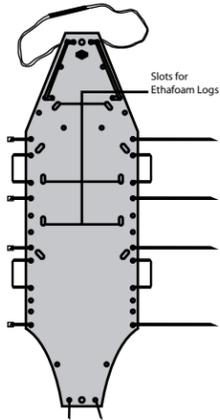


FIG.1 Unroll the SKED® stretcher and lay it flat.

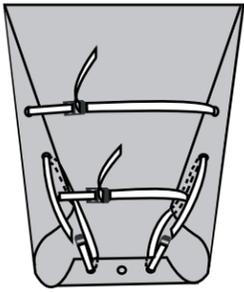


FIG.2 Fasten the two lower cross-straps and tighten them enough to pull the sides up and prevent the SKED® from bending. Fasten the two foot straps in order to bring the foot end up into the toboggan shape.

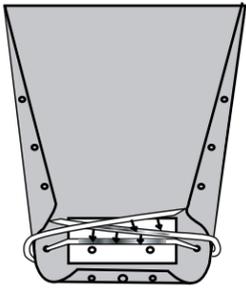


FIG.3 Attach the ballast (lead-shot weight) inside the foot end of the SKED® by placing it between the two grommets at the foot end of the SKED®. Pass the straps through the grommets from the inside out, and lay them across the Velcro on the ballast bag.

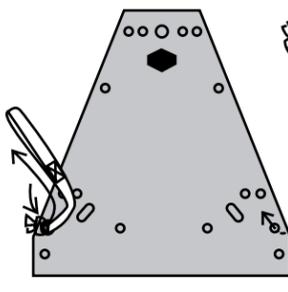


FIG.4 Attach the two long webbing handles by passing them through the unused grommets in the shoulder area, from the outside in.

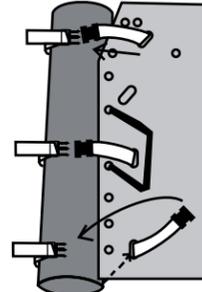


FIG.5 Attach the covered Ethafoam logs to the SKED® by passing one end of the retaining straps through the proper slots in SKED® and fasten them to their opposite ends, using the Fastex buckles provided. It is critical that the straps go all the way around the logs and through the slots on the SKED®.

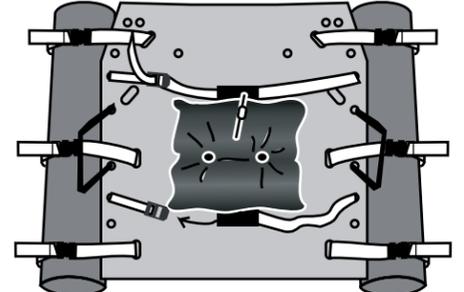


FIG.6 Upper cross-straps pass through appropriate strap loops on chest pad. Cross-straps should then be fastened and left in a loose position.



To inflate the chest pad: Loosen the lock ring below the rubber tip of the inflator valve. Press the rubber tip against your teeth and blow air in. It will take about two breaths to fill the chest pad.

TO PERFORM A WATER RESCUE:

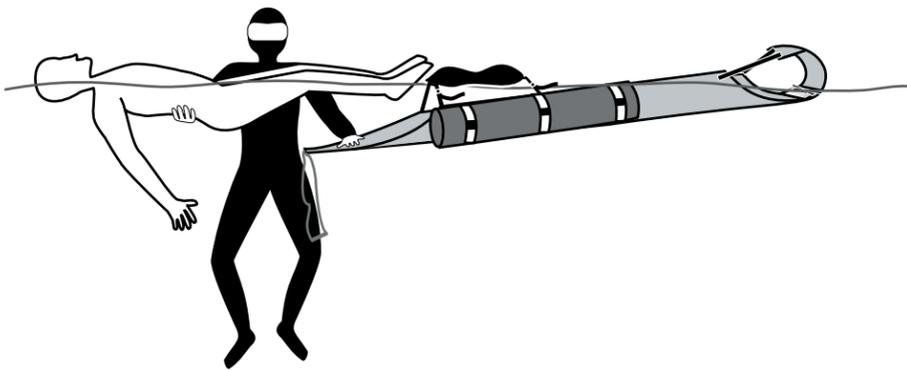


FIG.7 While supporting your patient under the small of the back with one hand, use the other hand to push the head-end of the SKED® under water. Chest pad will float supporting upper cross-straps in open position for easy entry.

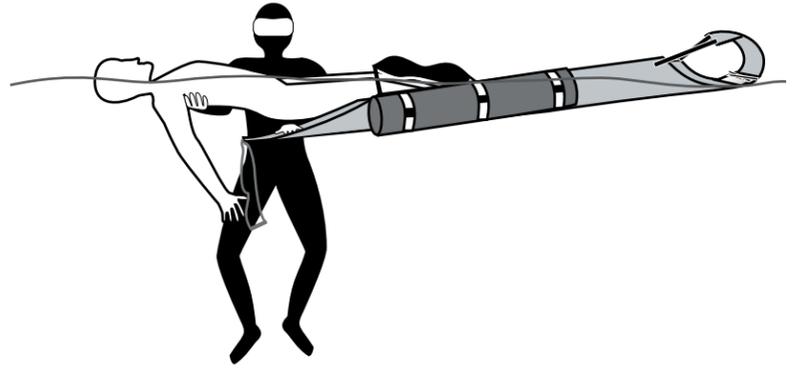


FIG.8 When you have the head-end low enough in the water, move your patient (FEET FIRST) over the top end of the SKED® and down into it.

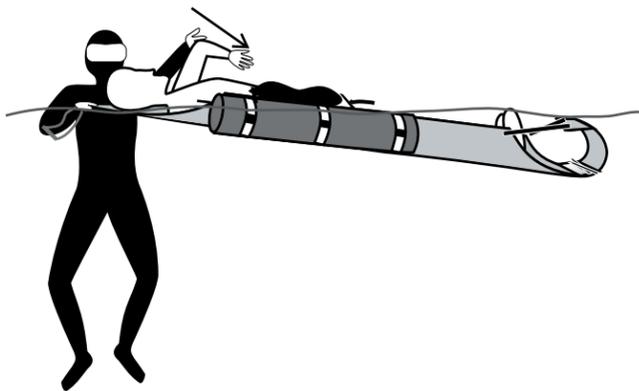


FIG.9 When the patient's head is on the SKED®, place his/her arms inside the straps.

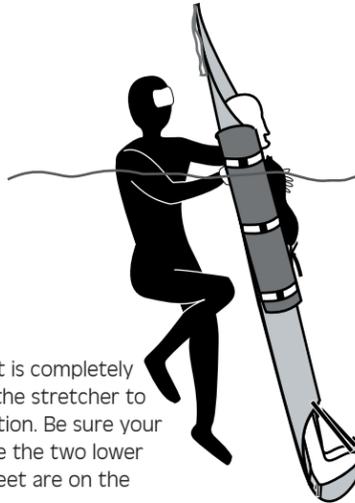


FIG.10 Once the patient is completely into the SKED®, allow the stretcher to go into a head-up position. Be sure your patient's legs are inside the two lower cross-straps and the feet are on the foot end-flap.

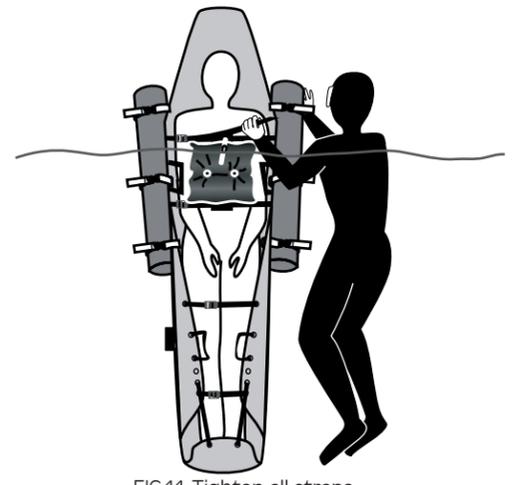
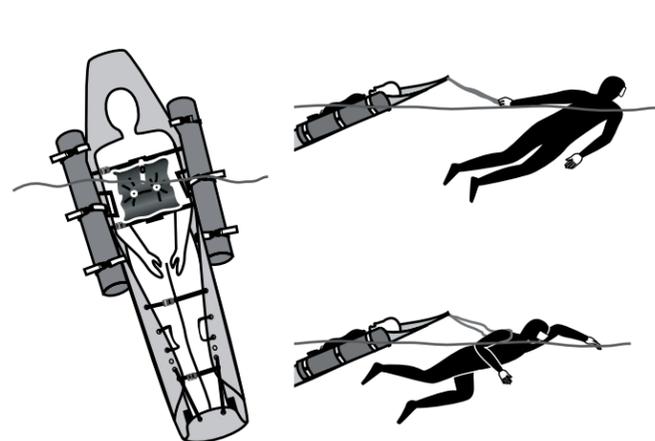


FIG.11 Tighten all straps.



POST RIGGING:

FIG.12, 13 Your patient is now ready to be towed to a boat, dock, or other surface location and hauled from the water.

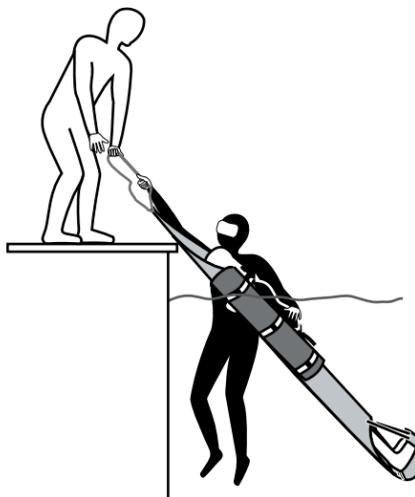


FIG. 14 The swimmer will hand the tow handle to a person on the surface.

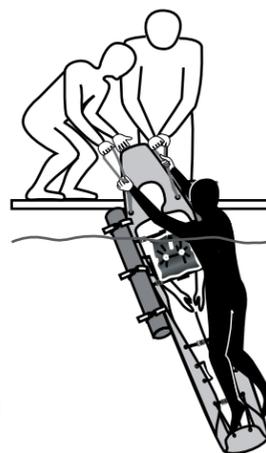


FIG.15 The swimmer will then hand the ends of the long extra handles up to two people on the surface.

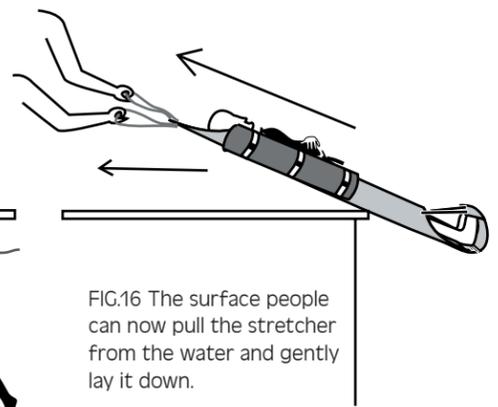


FIG.16 The surface people can now pull the stretcher from the water and gently lay it down.

Your patient can be treated in the SKED®, transferred to another boat or ship, hoisted into a helicopter, or just removed from the SKED® from treatment.

Placement of the flotation components is critical. Be sure to follow the instructions for rigging.

These rescue instructions are general. An alteration of technique may be necessary, depending on the type of rescue performed.

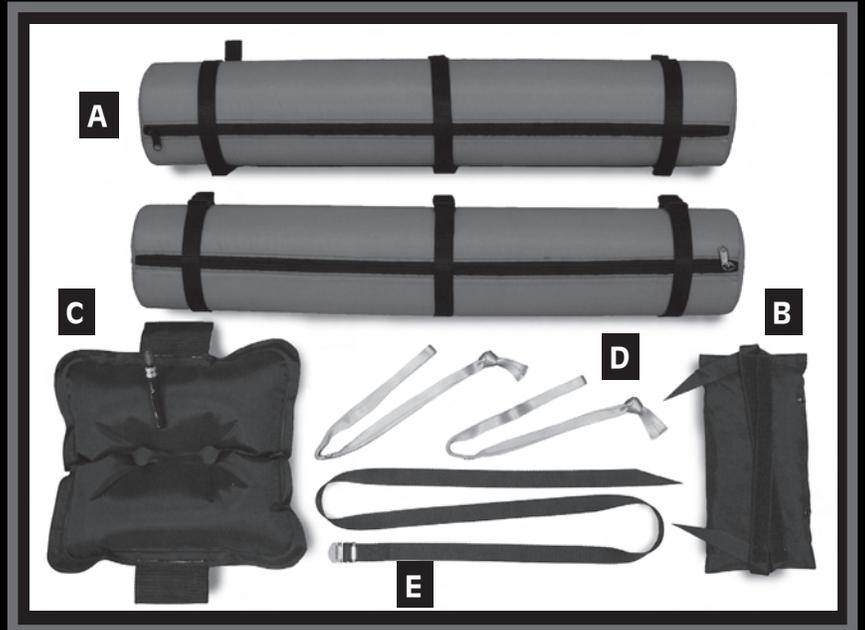
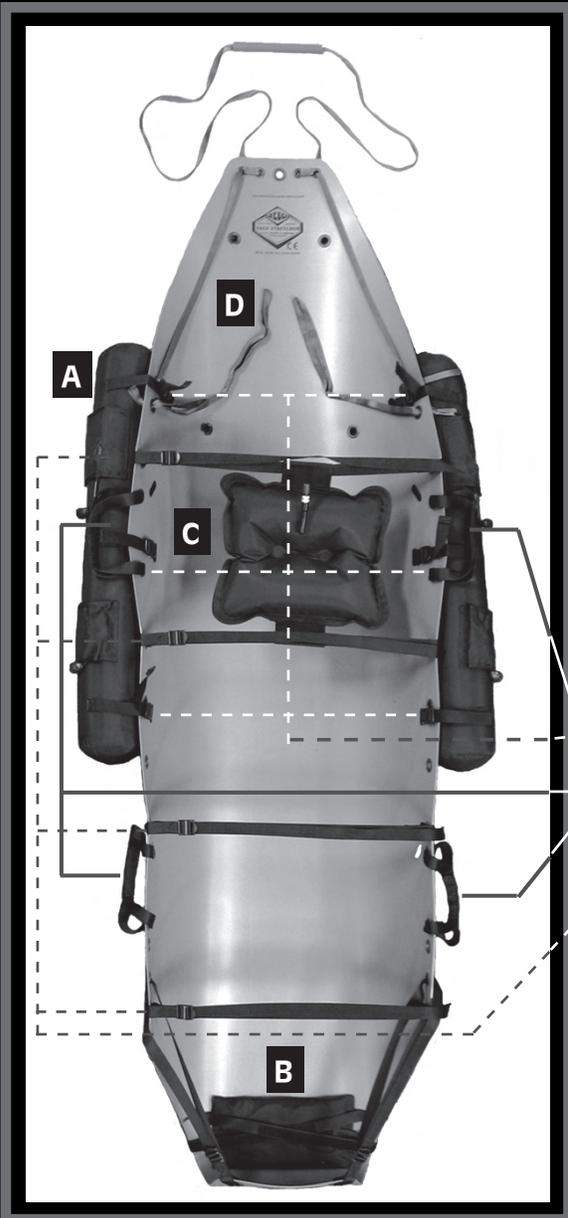
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Slots for Ethafoam and Inflatable Logs

Handles

Cross-Straps

- A. Inflatable Flotation Logs or Ethafoam Logs with Covers
- B. Lead-Shot Ballast (15 lbs.)
- C. Inflatable Chest Pad
- D. Long Extra Handles
- E. Retainer Strap (only comes with Foam Log system)

Distributed by:

Pictured on the right is the complete SKED® rescue system (SK-800)

Note: Foam Floats are secured on outside. The chest pad and ballast bag are in the front pockets. Inflatable Floats also fit into the front pockets.

