LIFESLING®
OVERBOARD RESCUE SYSTEM
PATENTED

DEVELOPED BY THE SAILING FOUNDATION

- Allows one person to rescue another heavier person
- Simple to learn and use
- No dangerous close in boat maneuvering
- Flotation is delivered to Man OverBoard (MOB) / MOB not required to swim to flotation
- Mounts on stern rail
- 20 lbs. flotation
SETTING UP THE LIFESLING

MOUNTING/RIGGING
1. Mount the Lifesling storage bag on the inside of the stern pulpit.
2. Permanently secure end of \( \frac{5}{8} \)" polypropylene tether to any strong point on board. Fake approximately 6" at a time into center section of storage bag. Start with the secured end. Do not coil under any conditions.
3. Loop tether line through 'D' rings. Permanently tie with a bowline (Important—Permanently tape or seize bowlines exactly as shown below at both end of tether to prevent slipping). Loop should be big enough (typically 2" in diameter) to reach above railing with MOB in water to provide easy attachment to hoisting tackle.

HOISTING TACKLE
(not included with Lifesling)
1. Hoisting tackle of 3:1 purchase is recommended.
   - Top fiddle block-black (Schaefer 303-45), bottom single block with becket-silver (Schaefer 03-13) and snap hook (HYE 246 2\%)
   - 65 feet of \( \frac{5}{16} \)" New England Ropes StaSet Yacht Braid
2. Rigging - At dock, or even better, at sea, PRACTICE RIGGING. Improper handling can cause dangerous tangling.

PROCEDURE (Top and bottom blocks different colors for ease of rigging)
- Attach bottom (silver) snap hook block to loop tied in tether.
- Secure top (black) fiddle block to any convenient halyard
- Uncoil tackle line
- Hoist top (black fiddle) block 10 feet above deck
- Lead tail of hoisting line through the boat's jib lead block or other fair leading deck block and to winch

TACKLE STOWED IN BAG

3. Stowage - It is recommended that tackle be stowed in bottom of line pouch inside Lifesling bag. To reduce chance of fouling: Stow tackle in "two blocked" position, with two blocks snugged up together by pulling the tail all the way through the two blocks.

HOW TO MOUNT WATER ACTIVATED LIGHT (ACR/LB-2(A))
- Remove rubber 'O' rings from battery and discard.
- Remove orange "sealing plug tab". Force sealed lens through hole in top of pouch from the inside.
- Put battery into pouch with socket end facing open end of pouch.
- Coil extra wire and put between bottom of battery and Lifesling.
- Insert orange "sealing plug tab" around sewn end flap of pouch.
- Reconnect 4 plugs on "sealing plug tab" into battery.
- Push long flap on pouch under battery and wire to retain battery in pouch.

LIMITED WARRANTY AND DISCLAIMER OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES
PORT SUPPLY, manufacturer of this LIFESLING device, warrants that if used and stored according to directions, it will be free from defects in material and workmanship for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of its retail sale. This warranty shall be limited to the repair and, as necessary, replacement of parts, and any necessary labor and services required to repair or replace any parts, necessary to render the device free of defects. The sole obligation of PORT SUPPLY shall be the repair or replacement of LIFESLING, and under no circumstances shall PORT SUPPLY, its agents, or successors, be liable for any direct, consequential or other damages arising out of any claimed defect in the device or the method of its use.

THIS WARRANTY IS IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, WHETHER RELATING TO FITNESS, MERCHANTABILITY, OR OTHERWISE. Except as to the express warranty set forth above, the manufacturer DISCLAIMS any and all warranties and representations relating to the product.

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OVERBOARD RESCUE INSTRUCTIONS

1. STOP THE BOAT IMMEDIATELY near MOB. Sailboats head into wind. Luff all sails. Maintain visual contact with MOB at all times.

2. CIRCLE THE MOB (as if picking up a water skier). Lifesling or tether should reach MOB within first or second circle. Sailboats should maneuver under sail to eliminate risk of fouling propeller in overboard sheets and other lines. Do not sail over tether and avoid hitting MOB.

3. WHEN LIFESLING REACHES MOB, STOP THE BOAT IMMEDIATELY. Sailboats head into wind and drop all sails, jib first. Powerboats: stop all engines completely. MOB PLACES LIFESLING UNDER ARMS and connects plastic buckle. Built-in floatation helps float MOB. Do not tow MOB behind boat. He could drown in his own wake.

4. PULL MOB ALONGSIDE SLOWLY preferably on windward side of boat (however, either side will do). Lift MOB as far as possible and TIE TETHER TO CLEAT. MOB is secured out of immediate drowning danger while hoisting tackle is rigged. MAINTAIN TENSION ON TETHER SO MOB WILL NOT SLIP OUT.

5. RIG HOISTING TACKLE: Top end to halyard A MINIMUM OF TEN FEET ABOVE DECK to allow MOB to clear lifeline. Main halyard recommended, but any halyard will do. Bottom end to loop in tether. Lead tail through jib lead block and to winch.

6. HOIST MOB ABOARD

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS

Recommended While Sailing
Be prepared! All crew people on deck should be equipped with:
- Life jacket
- Strobe light or flares
- Whistle tied to lanyard
- Wearing safety harness with short tether, ensuring that crew person will not go overboard if he falls

Notes for Sailboats
- Use of power should be avoided, but may be necessary in light air or if boat has no headsail up. Once MOB reaches Lifesling, engine should be shut off.
- To stop boat immediately turning into the wind while under spinbaker may cause the boat to broach, but it is still effective and the best alternative.
- Jib may be left aback (leave jib sheet alone) when circling MOB with Lifesling deployed.

Using Lifesling With Other Man Overboard Systems
The Lifesling should not be used in conjunction with a conventional man overboard system (horseshoe buoy tied to overhead pole, drogue, etc.). Lifesling may become tangled with it. Conventional systems, even when deployed quickly, are frequently too far from the MOB for him to reach it. Use of overboard pole alone, if it can be rapidly deployed can be helpful in big seas.

The keys to effective rescues with the Lifesling system are:
- More than one crew person on board should be familiar with boat handling and basic seamanship.
- Crew on board should focus total attention on maintaining visual contact with MOB.
- Follow and practice recommended Lifesling rescue techniques as written.
The Man Overboard (MOB) Rescue System Developed After Four Years of Study by the Sailing Foundation

What do you do if you're a member of a two-person crew—and one of you goes overboard? Or even with a full crew and one member goes overboard?

What if you're a 98 pound woman—and the MOB is a 240 pound man? What if you're on the open sea, harpered by winds and cold temperatures of 50 degrees F or less?

Two similar incidents, ending in tragedy, caused the Seattle Sailing Foundation to form a Safety Committee to develop the best, most effective overboard rescue system. The initial findings were disappointing. No research existed for any systematic overboard testing procedure. No military research. No international findings.

The Safety Committee reviewed available literature and case studies on man overboard incidents and made the following findings:

1. Drowning is the primary danger, not hypothermia.
2. Hypothermia will be substantially reduced if MOB, even if soaking wet, can get out of the water.
3. Following the MOB into the water is risky and usually ineffective.
4. Panic—for both MOB and rescuer—must be addressed.
5. Visual contact with the MOB must be maintained.
6. Use of engines is often dangerous, especially with inexperienced boat handlers.
7. A reliable boat handling method must be known to at least two crew members.
8. Man overboard protection, including harness gear, should be reevaluated.
9. Some lifting device to bring the MOB back aboard is necessary.
10. Life jackets are a must at all times.

Development of the Lifesling

The Safety Committee utilized their findings to draw up a list of criteria to develop an effective man overboard rescue system.

All steps in the overboard rescue process were studied, including rescue procedures and devices, in a variety of environments from lakes to the open sea. A floating trailing line was found to be the best means to solve the problem of delivering the flotation to the MOB and boat handling—lifting and keeping the MOB afloat difficulties were solved by development of a unique flotation/lifting device.

This device is the Lifesling.

The Lifesling: The Most Reliable Overboard Rescue System Available Today

In testing, utilizing people not experienced with the Lifesling Rescue Method, hundreds of rescues have been successfully completed. With a few minutes practice, rescue length times have been dramatically reduced.

Although there may be cases when extreme conditions preclude any successful overboard rescue, we believe the Lifesling and its associated rescue process to be the most effective technique of its kind.

For a copy of the findings of the Safety Committee of the Seattle Sailing Foundation, please contact us.

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*The Seattle Sailing Foundation is a nonprofit educational organization dedicated to the advancement of sailing in the Pacific Northwest.
Convenient storage bag for mounting on stern pulpit

3:1 hoisting tackle, required for complete system, stores in bag (tackle not included with Lifesling)

Tether tail covered with nylon sleeve for U.V. protection

150 feet 3/8" polypropylene floating tether

‘D’ rings provide easy entry and secure closure during rescues

Bouyancy section provides USCG Type IV 20 lb. flotation

Pliable center section provides easy grasp during recovery

Built-in pouch for water-activated light (ACRL8-2) for night use (light not included)

Your Authorized Dealer is:

Port Supply, 500 Westridge Drive, Watsonville, CA 95076-4100