

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Congratulations on buying the best Rescue Specialty Rope in the world! This rope will assist you in maintaining the highest levels of safety while navigating rescue situations in various environments. This rope may serve any of a number of functions, but it is NOT a Life Safety Rope and should NOT be used as a primary support for human life, such as with ascending and descending at height. Get to know the specific properties and use for your particular rope since PMI offers many different kinds of ropes with many different features. Proper use, inspection and care of Rescue Specialty Ropes are considered essential for your safety. These Manufacturer's Instructions apply to all PMI Rescue Specialty Ropes.

PMI OFFERS TWO TYPES OF RESCUE SPECIALTY ROPES:

1. RESCUE SEARCH ROPE

Rescue Search Rope is for attaching to a rescuer for the purpose of retracing a path in low to zero visibility environments. PMI search rope is highly visible, easy to deploy, hard to snag, substantial enough to be felt through a glove and designed for maximum heat resistance in extreme temperatures.

PMI Rapid Search Line II

PMI Rapid Search Line II is a 9mm rope with high visibility. The Core is one large Kevlar® cable with nylon filler cables and a high tenacity nylon sheath. It is made in the U.S.A. and is BERRY compliant.

2. WATER RESCUE ROPES

Water Rescue Ropes are for use as an adjunct to safety in water environments, including swiftwater, flatwater, surf, and ice. They may be used with or without throw bags for subject retrieval, ferrying lines, hand-lines, and other auxiliary water rescue functions. These ropes vary in their features and materials.

PMI Water Rescue Rope

PMI Water Rescue Rope is intended for use as a bagged throw rope for boat or shore based water rescue. The continuous stranded polypropylene core provides flotation to the wear-resistant braided nylon sheath. This rope has a higher breaking strength than economy polypropylene water rescue rope, and is much easier to grip. This rope is made in the USA.

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PRODUCT DESCRIPTION (continued)

WATER RESCUE ROPES (CONTINUED)

PMI Retro-Reflective Water Rescue Rope

This rope includes all the features of the PMI Water Rescue Rope with added reflection capability for nighttime use. The continuous stranded polypropylene core provides flotation to the wear-resistant braided nylon sheath. This rope has a higher breaking strength than economy polypropylene water rescue rope, and is much easier to grip. This rope is made in the USA.

Economy Throw Rope

The perfect throwline rope in water rescue operations where a floating, economical, and lightweight line is needed. With a specific gravity less than 1, polypropylene will float in any water conditions. While great for personal throwline applications, it is not designed for use as rigging gear for technical rope rescue. It is a solid braid rope made of 100% polypropylene.

PMI Navigator

The PMI Navigator is an extremely buoyant and high strength-to-size ratio kernmantle rope with a Polypropylene Sheath and Dyneema® Core. It is Made in the U.S.A. and the 7mm size meets NFPA 1983 standards for a throwline.

WARNINGS

WARNING

- This rope is NOT classified as a Life Safety Rope and should NOT be used as a primary means of support for human life.
- You are responsible for your own safety and decisions while using this rope.
- Special training and knowledge are required to use this rope for the intended use.
- Before using this rope you must thoroughly read and understand all of the Manufacturer's Instructions.
- Activities involving the use of this rope are inherently dangerous; you must understand and accept the risks involved.
- Failure to follow these stated warnings may result in serious injury or death.

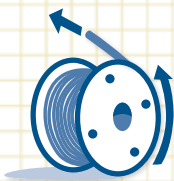
WARNING

PMI is not responsible or liable in any way for damages of any kind, injury or death resulting from direct or indirect incidents related to the use of its products.

WHEN YOU RECEIVE YOUR ROPE

1. Make sure the rope is exactly what you ordered and inspect it right away. If the rope, or the box in which it was shipped, was damaged during shipping notify PMI immediately at 706-764-1437.
2. Retain the product label and Manufacturer's Instructions as a permanent record after removing them from your rope. Keep a copy of these instructions with the rope.
3. Remove the coiled or spooled rope from the box and unroll it, end over end as shown in **DIAGRAM A**. If on a spool, using a small pipe or broom handle as an axle makes it easier to unroll. Unwrapping coils or spools from the sides will introduce kinks into your rope that likely will require free hanging the entire length of rope to untwist.

DIAGRAM A



4. Take a moment to familiarize and educate yourself about your rope. Note such things as strength, diameter, working elongation, length and fiber.
5. Use some means of identifying the rope, such as a PMI Rope ID Kit, and begin a Rope Log for it. PMI provides a sample Rope Log with every rope, but if you don't have one or if you need more you can copy the sample provided or you can make your own. Keep this and all of the instructions and paperwork which came with the rope in a safe, conspicuous place where all potential users will see the warnings and information prior to using the rope. Many PMI rope bags have see-through windows for this purpose.
6. Contact PMI IMMEDIATELY at 706-764-1437, if you have any questions or concerns about your rope!

INSPECTION, CARE & MAINTENANCE

BEFORE YOU USE YOUR ROPE

All ropes should be inspected for wear and damage before and after each use by a person who is competent in rope rigging and associated equipment. Inspect the entire length of the rope, even when you don't use all of it. Keep in mind that it is difficult to inspect wet rope and it is best to dry it first. Let one person complete the entire inspection of one rope. If you split this job between different people, they might miss something important. In addition to regular pre-use inspection, all rope should be thoroughly inspected by a competent person at least annually, regardless of how frequently the rope is (or isn't) used.

Inspection, Care & Maintenance continued on next page...

HOW TO INSPECT YOUR ROPE

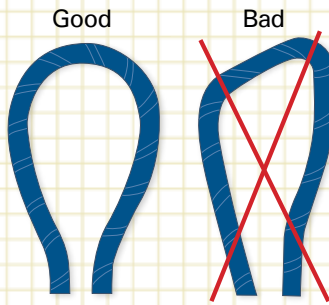
1. LOOK AT IT.... ALL OF IT!

Start at one end and look at every inch of the rope. Watch for signs that might indicate possible damage such as discoloration, chemical odors, abrasion, cuts or nicks in the outer sheath and visible differences in the diameter of the rope in one area in relation to the rest of the rope.

2. WRAP IT IN SMALL LOOPS AND LOOK!

Use both hands to form a bight of rope beginning at one end and pushing the rope through your hands allowing the bight to maintain its round shape for the entire length of the rope. If it doesn't maintain a rounded shape as seen in **DIAGRAM B**, then there might be a problem with the rope's core and you should not use it.

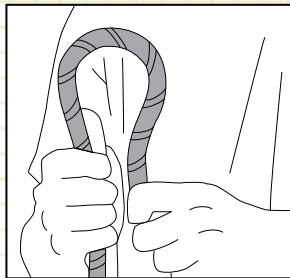
DIAGRAM B



3. FEEL THE ROPE!

While you are looking at every inch of the rope, run it through your bare hands and feel it for changes that might indicate damage to the core. Changes may include any inconsistencies in rope diameter, soft or "mushy" spots, or extraordinarily stiff areas. (**DIAGRAM C**)

DIAGRAM C



Inspection, Care & Maintenance continued on page 8...

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EQUIPMENT INSPECTION LOG

Item

Model #

Date of Manufacture

Date in Service

Size

Lot/Serial Number

Purchased From

Purchase Date

ID Markings

Date Used	Use/Maintenance

Pigeon Mountain Industries, Inc. | PO Box 803, LaFayette, GA 30278

Comments

Name

	Comments	Name

Fax: 706-764-1531 | Email: custserv@pmirope.com

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4. WRITE IT ALL DOWN!

Write the results of your inspection on the Rope Log included with your rope. Include anything you find in your inspection that might be or become a concern and document other important information about the rope such as use conditions, loading information, rigging notes, date of manufacture and date placed in service. Be sure to document any occurrence of uncontrolled or excessive loading, if it has come into contact with harmful chemicals and all history of use.

5. IF IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT

If you are not sure about the integrity of a rope, DO NOT USE IT. Consult PMI if you need help.

USING YOUR ROPE

This Rescue Specialty Rope is intended for use in safety and rescue related systems, but it is not intended to be used as a suspension line for human life. This rope meets industry specifications for the purpose for which it is intended, but does not meet strength and performance specifications of Life Safety Rope.

There are no special transportation requirements for these ropes. However, exhaust fumes from motor vehicles have been known to discolor (or "yellow") the protective finish on some white nylon yarns. For best results, PMI recommends that your rope be stored in an appropriate rope bag to protect it from dirt, debris, accidental cutting and abrasion, exhaust fumes, heat, sunlight, etc. Perform a visual and tactile inspection on your rope to verify it is in serviceable condition before and after each use, (see "HOW TO INSPECT YOUR ROPE"). Ensure that everyone using the rope has proper training, and fully understands the performance capabilities and limitations as they relate to your application.

PMI ropes may be terminated using acceptable knots such as the figure 8, figure 9, bowline, and alpine butterfly. Users must be trained and proficient in the use of knots in order to use them safely. Keep in mind when calculating and using system safety factors that knots reduce the strength of the rope to some degree, usually by 25-30% depending on the knot.

Protect your rope from anything that might damage it, such as extreme temperatures (especially heat), trailing or looping of rope over sharp edges, chemical reagents, electrical conductivity, cutting, abrasion, and climatic exposure including prolonged exposure to direct sunlight. A metal roller, cloth pad, or other item should be placed between the rope and any sharp edge.

Inspection, Care & Maintenance continued on next page...

INSPECTION, CARE & MAINTENANCE (continued)

USING YOUR ROPE (CONTINUED)

Avoid contact between moving textiles (rope or webbing) and stationary textiles. Friction between textiles can quickly melt through the fixed part. The diameter of the rope you have selected will affect not only the minimum breaking strength, but also abrasion resistance, handling characteristics, weight per meter, and what auxiliary equipment you may be able to use. Be sure that any equipment you intend to use with this rope is compatible.

A wide variety of accessories may be safely used with these ropes. **DO NOT USE** any accessory with these ropes if you are not certain that it will be safe. Training, education, and experience are essential for calculating and using appropriate safety factors and to using equipment safely. Establishing and evaluating the safety factor will differ with every situation, and even multiple times throughout a given rope operation. It is your responsibility to acquire the appropriate training and experience to understand and apply such subjective concepts.

MAINTAINING YOUR ROPE

- Maintain a Rope Log for each individual rope and review it regularly. Include information such as date of manufacture, date placed in service, dates of use and conditions under which rope is used, results of rope inspections, and other information specific to your application.
- Keep your rope clean using the guidelines provided in these Manufacturer's Instructions. Dirt rubbing into and against the fibers of your rope will deteriorate it.
- Store your rope in a clean, dark, dry environment, not on a surface from which contaminants might leach (such as concrete), and away from exposure to chemicals, noxious fumes or other harmful agents. We recommend use of a PMI Rope Bag or Rope Pack.

CLEANING YOUR ROPE

WASH IT - You can wash dirty ropes best by using the Bokart Rope Washer by PMI. You can also wash ropes by hand or in a front-loading commercial washing machine. Use a PMI Laundry bag for keeping rope from getting tangled when washing. Wash rope using cool to warm water <30°C (<86°F) with a mild soap. PMI recommends using PMI Rope Soap, otherwise non-detergent soaps are best. Soap used should not contain any bleaching agents.

DO NOT use top loading washing machines with agitators because they tangle the rope severely and might even cause damage from friction produced by rubbing the synthetic rope against the synthetic agitator. **Note:** Ropes may shrink up to approximately 6% after washing. In addition, some environments may cause your rope to shrink over time. The user should verify its length periodically.

INSPECTION, CARE & MAINTENANCE (continued)

DISINFECT IT - Disinfection of a rope may occasionally become necessary, such as when exposed to bloodborne pathogens. To disinfect a rope from suspected bloodborne pathogens, PMI recommends following the NFPA standard for cleaning rescue gear of bloodborne pathogens. Keeping in mind that undiluted household bleach is known to damage nylon ropes, NFPA calls for using a diluted solution of household bleach to clean rescue gear exposed to bloodborne pathogens. Add 60 ml of household bleach per 4 liters of tap water. That's about one quarter (1/4) cup of household bleach per gallon of water. Be aware that some commercial bleach solutions are stronger than the recommended 1.5% that is typical for household bleach. Soak the gear in the diluted solution for ten minutes, then rinse thoroughly with tap water. The rinsing cycle is critical to prevent any damage to the rope from the bleach. It is good to soak the gear in tap water for the same amount of time it soaked in the bleach solution. Allow the gear to thoroughly dry in a cool place before storing it. Never dry your ropes in direct sunlight or laying on an unprotected surface. Never store ropes and gear wet.

WARNING

The use of bleach over a long period of time, in repeated uses, can cause damage to fibers such as nylon. Disinfection of the ropes using bleach should be used sparingly and only when needed.

LUBRICATE IT - Ropes may dry out and lose some flexibility as a result of washing. You can prevent this by adding a little fabric softener (about a cup of fabric softener) to the rinse cycle during rope washing. Don't use any more than this or it might damage the rope.

DRY IT - Dry your rope in a clean, dry area out of direct sunlight. For best results, the rope should be laid in a loose coil on a protected surface or coiled around two objects off of the ground in a low-humidity environment.

DO NOT:

- DO NOT use a commercial dryer to dry the rope.
- DO NOT leave wet ropes on a surface from which contaminants might leach (such as concrete) for an extended period of time.
- DO NOT expose any rope to exhaust fumes or harmful chemicals.

WRITE IT DOWN - Remember to record the cleaning on the Rope Log.

KEEP IT CLEAN - After repacking, store your rope in a clean, dark, dry environment, away from exposure to acids, other harmful chemicals, noxious fumes or other abuse.

Inspection, Care & Maintenance continued on next page...

RETIREMENT CRITERIA

- RETIRE IMMEDIATELY any rope whose strength may have been compromised during use.
- RETIRE IMMEDIATELY any rope which is subjected to uncontrolled or excessive loading.
- RETIRE IMMEDIATELY any rope which is greater than 10 years old, regardless of history and usage. The age of the rope is calculated from date of manufacture.
- RETIRE IMMEDIATELY any rope whose history and past usage you are uncertain about.
- RETIRE IMMEDIATELY any rope that has been exposed to heat, direct flame or excessive abrasion.
- RETIRE IMMEDIATELY any rope that has been visibly damaged.
- RETIRE IMMEDIATELY any rope that has been exposed to liquids, solids, gases, mists, or vapors of any chemical or other substance that can deteriorate rope.
- RETIRE IMMEDIATELY any rope that does not pass inspection.
- RETIRE IMMEDIATELY any rope when there is any doubt about its safety or serviceability.

CUT RETIRED ROPE into short lengths to discourage future use or discard it entirely. A retired rope should not be stored, kept or maintained in such a way that it could inadvertently be used inappropriately. In some cases, when only a single point or a small area of a rope has been damaged and the rest of the rope is still in good condition, the user may elect to cut that section out of the rope and continue to use the shorter rope(s) in appropriate service applications. This is a judgment call and such a decision is left to the users' discretion.

Any retired 100% nylon ropes can be sent back to PMI to be included in a Rope Recycling Program. Contact PMI for more information.