May 2010 - Issue no: 16

Rescue News

PT Hydraulics Australia

Smart Solutions for Rescue Operations

Managing Doors During Spreading

The increased use of passive & active safety systems employed in modern vehicles ensures that every rescuer will experience challenges when trying to access casualties. The systems which a rescuer may be faced with include Side Impact Protection Systems, a range of SRS airbags and stronger structural pillars incorporating high strength materials.

A potential danger exists for rescuers when managing door removal on a vehicle fitted with a Side Impact Protection System. Doors may inadvertently spring open when applying a Spreader or Combi Tool, potentially injuring an inattentive rescuer. In attempts to combat this, some operators will either 'bum the door', or maintain pressure on it using their arms whilst it is being spread, as seen in the two pictures on the right. Both of these methods are to be avoided as they are fraught with danger and can potentially cause injuries to the rescuer.

Please turn to the back page, where we highlight two safer & more efficient options for minimizing the risk when relocating a door.

Thanks to Bendigo Mining Limited for helping us to photograph these situations, and please note that both of these photos were setup, and no spreading was actually being carried out.

What not to do! Attempting to arrest the door using parts of your body has the potential to seriously injure the rescuer

INTERSCHUTZ
DER ROTE HAHN
INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION FOR RESCUE, FIRE PREVENTION, DISASTER RELIEF, SAFETY, SECURITY
LEIPZIG 7 - 12 JUNE 2010

Interschutz is the premier international trade show for the Rescue community. It comes around every 5 years and exhibits the latest innovations for the Rescue, Disaster Relief, Safety, Fire Prevention & Civil Securities sectors. It is being held from 7th - 12th June in Leipzig, Germany, spanning 5 exhibition halls and showcasing over 1,000 exhibitors. 100,000 people are expected to attend the show. As always, PT Rescue will be there looking for new products to aid Rescue workers in Australia.

If you have any particular products you would like us to source, please don't hesitate to contact us to discuss your needs.

New Products

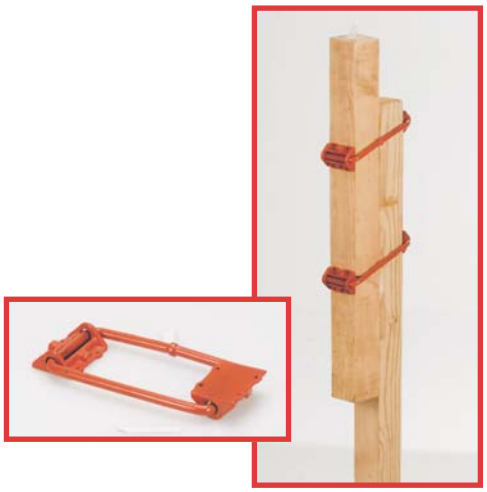
PT Rescue is excited to introduce a new range of shoring products. Ellis Manufacturing has a proud history of designing & manufacturing goods that have served the Emergency Services, Mining & Construction industries since 1951.

Here we highlight three products in the range; Clamps, Screw Jacks & Jack Wrenches. Videos instructing on the operation of the Clamps & Screw Jacks are available online at *http://www.ellisok.com/ellisok/videos.html* . For more information on these products, or anything else in the entire Ellis Manufacturing range, please don't hesitate to contact PT Rescue.

Clamp

The Ellis Clamp is simply designed to bring two pieces of lumber together to quickly create an adjustable shore. This greatly reduces the amount of both lumber & time needed for building shores, making it ideal for use in emergency situations.

Available in six sizes, the clamp is manufactured with a solid steel rectangular collar and two heavy-duty malleable castings, which are grooved on the flat surfaces for firm gripping on lumber.



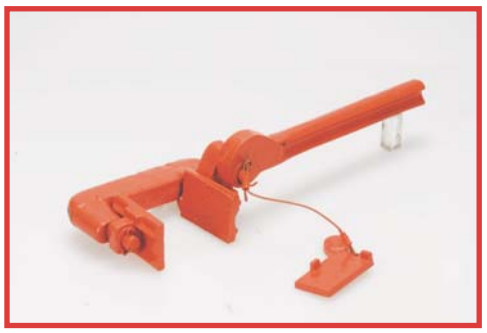
Screw Jack

The Ellis Screw Jack comes in two sizes, allowing for use of either 4x4 lumber or 6x6 lumber. The lumber is fitted into the top opening of the jack, creating adjustable & reusable shoring, with an adjustment range of 15cm.

As with all Ellis products, the systems prevents waste of lumber, assures countless re-uses & saves precious time. The Screw Jack is especially suited to gang-shoring situations, such as Roof Shoring.

Jack Wrench

The Ellis Jack Wrench makes leveling of shores & purlins simple. The Jack grips the wood of the lower shore member just below the bottom of the upper member. The operator then jacks the handle one stroke, which raises the upper shore member about 2.5cm. The operator then jars the wrench loose and repositions for the next stroke. Each stroke & reposition requires about 5 seconds.



Product Updates

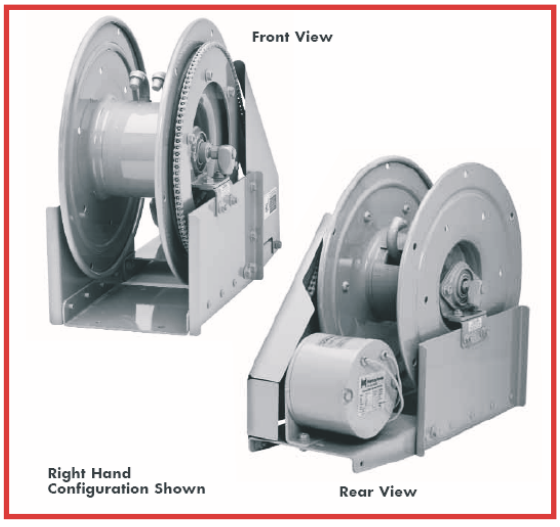
Lukas Concrete Crusher LSI531CC

Lukas has recently released an updated version of the highly successful Concrete Crusher tool, with a new design incorporating cutting blades & conical tips. This tool is perfect for fast, silent & clean Urban Search & Rescue applications. The new blade profile is specially designed to crush concrete while also cutting reinforcing bars. The tool is now capable of operating at 700 Bar, making it compatible with all Lukas Rescue pumps currently in service.

As with all Lukas Rescue Tools, it features a Star Grip Control Valve, allowing precise control in any working position. It has the added advantages of creating minimal dust during demolition, creating no vibrations helping to prevent possible Hand-Arm Vibration Syndrome (HAVS) typically associated with jack hammers & other percussive equipment, and also minimises noise which is usually associated with other demolition hammers & saws.

Blade Opening	***310 mm***
Cutting Force at Blade Notch	***65 Tonnes***
Crushing Force at Conical Tips	***8 Tonnes***
Cuts reinforcing bars	***30 mm***
Dimensions: L x W x H	***810 x 250 x 170 mm***
Weight	***23.9 Kg***

Rear Mounted Electric Hose Reel



PT Rescue is pleased to announce a new Electric Hose Reel in our range. The new reel has a rear-mounted motor, as opposed to the previous configurations which have generally had side-mounted motors. This greatly reduces the amount of space required for mounting in a Rescue Appliance.

It has an overall width of only 305mm, along with a height of 460mm and depth of 565mm. It is available in either 12v or 24v DC, and is supplied with a solenoid & switch. The reel can be ordered in either right or left-hand configuration, is pressure rated to over 700 bar and can hold up to 30m of hose. For any more information, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Smart Solutions for Rescue Operations

Two-tool Operation

A two-tool operator technique can be used to reduce the risks of door opening operations.

- Firstly, ensure that all Glass Management & Patient Protection requirements are complete.
- Use the Spreader on the door to create a gap, then use Cutters to cut the door locking components.
- This method allows for a more controlled release of the door, and also reduces the number of sharp edges which have to be managed.

Use the Spreader to create a gap

Use the Cutter to cut door locking components

Using an Endless Sling

The use of an Endless Sling when dealing with the relocation of doors can greatly reduce the risks, with the Sling being used to arrest the door from springing open. The steps needed to undertake this method are:

- Again, it is imperative to ensure that all Glass Management & Patient Protection requirements are met.
- Place the sling around the door and the pillar in a choker knot. This will allow for the knot to creep open as the metal is spread, but will stop it from flying open. Make sure you are not holding the sling so tight that it cannot move.
- Remove the sling when the task is completed.

An Endless Sling secures the door & the pillar ensuring that the door will not spring open

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