



Designation: F 1490 – 04

Standard Terminology Relating to Search and Rescue¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F 1490; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This terminology document is a compilation of definitions of terms, abbreviations, and acronyms used in the search and rescue field collected in order to provide consistency in communication when used in actual operations, training, and literature dealing with this field.

2. Terminology

access, *n*—the process of reaching the patients or subjects and establishing physical contact with them.

belayer, *n*—the one who performs the belay.

brake bar rack, *n*—a variable friction device consisting of a u-shaped metal bar to which are attached several metal bars that create friction on the rope. Also known as a rappel rack.

chest harness, *n*—a type of harness worn around the chest for upper body support.

evacuation, *n*—the process used to move the patient/subject between the completion of extraction and the beginning of transportation.

extraction, *n*—the process of removing the patient/subject from an immediately hazardous environment along with assessment, treatment, stabilization, and packaging.

john boat (maritime), *n*—a skiff with a flat bottom.

pike pole (maritime), *n*—a long, slender, hooked pole used by boaters to retrieve line, objects, and so forth from water. Also known as a *boat hook*.

ring buoy (maritime), *n*—a Type 4 personal floatation device, usually made of a hard buoyant material with a line encircling it.

third party certification, *n*—a certification by an independent testing organization that a particular product meets a referenced standard.

¹ This terminology is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F32 on Search and Rescue and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F32.06 on Terminology. Current edition approved Jan. 1, 2004. Published April 2004. Originally approved in 1993. Last previous edition approved in 1996 as F 1490 – 96.

ASTM International takes no position respecting the validity of any patent rights asserted in connection with any item mentioned in this standard. Users of this standard are expressly advised that determination of the validity of any such patent rights, and the risk of infringement of such rights, are entirely their own responsibility.

This standard is subject to revision at any time by the responsible technical committee and must be reviewed every five years and if not revised, either reapproved or withdrawn. Your comments are invited either for revision of this standard or for additional standards and should be addressed to ASTM International Headquarters. Your comments will receive careful consideration at a meeting of the responsible technical committee, which you may attend. If you feel that your comments have not received a fair hearing you should make your views known to the ASTM Committee on Standards, at the address shown below.

This standard is copyrighted by ASTM International, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, PO Box C700, West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959, United States. Individual reprints (single or multiple copies) of this standard may be obtained by contacting ASTM at the above address or at 610-832-9585 (phone), 610-832-9555 (fax), or service@astm.org (e-mail); or through the ASTM website (www.astm.org).