



INTERNATIONALE COMMISSION
FOR ALPINE RESCUE
COMMISSION FOR TERRESTRIAL RESCUE

Minutes
Working Meeting – Commission for Terrestrial Commission
15.1. - 16.1.2004
Diavolezza
(Switzerland)

15.1.2004 - Evening

1. Welcome – Bruno Jelk and Gebhard Barbisch

2. Presentation from Laurent Schneitter

Laurent Schneitter gives some informations about the way to evaluate the risk for a rescue operation in icefall areas.

Here some very important points:

- a) Temperature in the last 24 to 72 hours. This is very important for the quality of the ice.
- b) The timelag between the start of the tour and the start of the rescue operation. The area could be judged as safe at the start of the tour. When the rescue operation starts the situation could be changed.

He presents a table which he use for the risk evaluation before the rescue operation starts. Within this table you only decide by clear yes or no questions.

YES means – rescue operation can start or go on
NO means – wait for better conditions

Please look for the table and for further details at the downloadable file:
SAC Schneitter Eisrettung_2004_IKAR_F_D.pdf

16.1.2004

3. Demonstration of an icefall rescue operation - SAC

The rescuers start the operation from the bottom of the icefall. First they look for the injured person and they build an anchor above the injured person. The injured person and the rescuer were roped down through this anchor system to the bottom of the icefall.

At the other end of the rope they fix the second climber of the party and the second rescuer. They also were descended down to the bottom of the ice fall.

The rescuers from SAC set their priority on speed. This guarantees, that the rescuers are a very short time in the risk area.

4. Demonstration of an icefall rescue operation - CNSAS

The rescue team was positioned above the icefall on a rocky area and they climbed down to a safe point above the blocked climbers.

One rescuer descended to the injured climber and picked him up in a rescue bag. Then the rescuer and the injured climber were winched up by the helicopter.

The other members of the rescue team put away the anchor system and were also picked up by the helicopter.

After this rescue operation they present the M-System which is a very simple brake system to descend rescuers with the dynamic or a static rope.

This brake is also on function if the ropes are wet or icy.

If you need more brake effect, you have only to put one more edge on the system.

Further they show us an antirotation line. The line is a fishing line on a special reel which has a resistance of 4 kg if you pull on the line.



(The M-Brake)

5. Poland – Topics

The PGHM will show us a system to prevent rotations by helicopter winch operations.

For the other topics of the working meetings (17.-19.1.2004) please look at the minutes of the common meeting from the avalanche commission and the terrestrial commission. You can find this also on the homepage from IKAR (www.ikar-cisa.org)

Zermatt / Feldkirch am 28.01.2004

Bruno Jelk
President

Gebhard Barbisch
Vicepresident