beaufort

SAR LIFERAFT

UNIVERSALLY ADAPTABLE FOR ANY AIRCRAFT

FACE ANY SCENARIO WITH THE VERY BEST

- Tried and Tested in a large number of SAR missions
- Critical weight and space saving with a single compact package
- Multiple configurations available
- Deployed with high levels of accuracy from helicopters at 7-8m meters/aircraft in forward flight at altitudes from 30-90 meters with forward speeds up to 150 knots.

The RFD Search & Rescue (SAR) Raft provides essential aid to people in distress or in imminent danger at sea. As a vital component of Air-Sea Search and Rescue services, the SAR Raft is universally adoptable, available on virtually any rotary or fixed wing aircraft. The system is developed to optimise the search & rescue air drop operation, integrating the raft/aircraft interface into the entire design phase with no need for costly airframes or modifications.

Users can select from 2 types of market leading RFD liferafts, the unique Heliraft, the industry's number one choice of helicopter specific liferaft, and the popular Aerolite, an ultra light series of fixed-canopy liferafts.

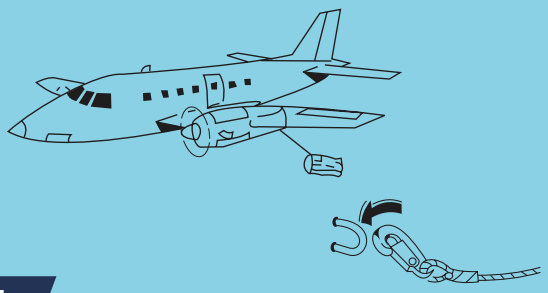
SAR LIFERAFT

RFD SAR RAFT FEATURES

- Air droppable valise, manufactured from strong nylon fabric with hypalon coating, coloured orange/yellow for high visibility
- Floating line (forward flight) 6mm dia x 150m length.
- Polypropylene. Minimum break load 1780n (400lbs).
  Sample tested at 4320n (971lbs).
- Automatic inflation (forward flight version)
- Parachute deployment (forward flight)
  915mm dia
  Spring loaded
- Operator inflation (hover version)
- Rapid boarding using boarding ramp
- Numerous survival packs available (optional)
- Dummy units available for training purposes

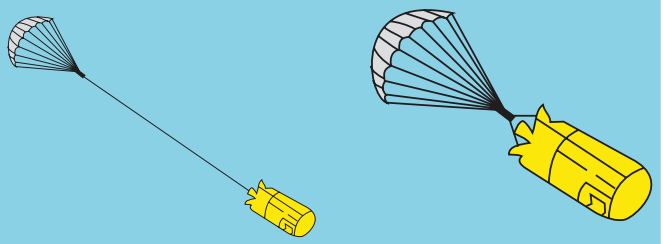
SYSTEM DEPLOYMENT - FORWARD FLIGHT

The RFD SAR-Raft is deployed from an aircraft flying at 45° across the prevailing wind. A smoke flare marker is dropped first to indicate wind direction and strength. The RFD SAR-Raft carabiner is attached to a strong point inside the aircraft in preparation for the drop.



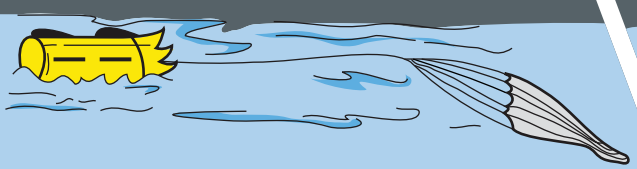
1

The Raft is pushed out of the door and the static line comes under tension breaking open the valise allowing the parachute to emerge and open.



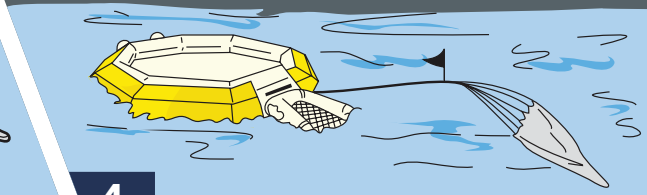
2

The Raft continues trajectory in the same direction as the aircraft. Floating line streams automatically from the descending SAR-Raft (due to the drag created by the opened parachute). The Raft hits the water with the floating line trailed.



3

Subject to forward speed and altitude of the aircraft, the floating line should be deployed over its full 150m length with little slack. After settling on the water the raft inflates automatically. At the other end of the buoyant line, the parachute acts as a sea anchor. Attached is a small float, which inflates automatically. The float is also equipped with a wateractivated light. The action of the wind pushes the liferaft and floating line towards the survivors, who can then reach and board the liferaft.



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SAR LIFERAFT

SAR RAFT CONFIGURATIONS FOR FIXED WING AIRCRAFT

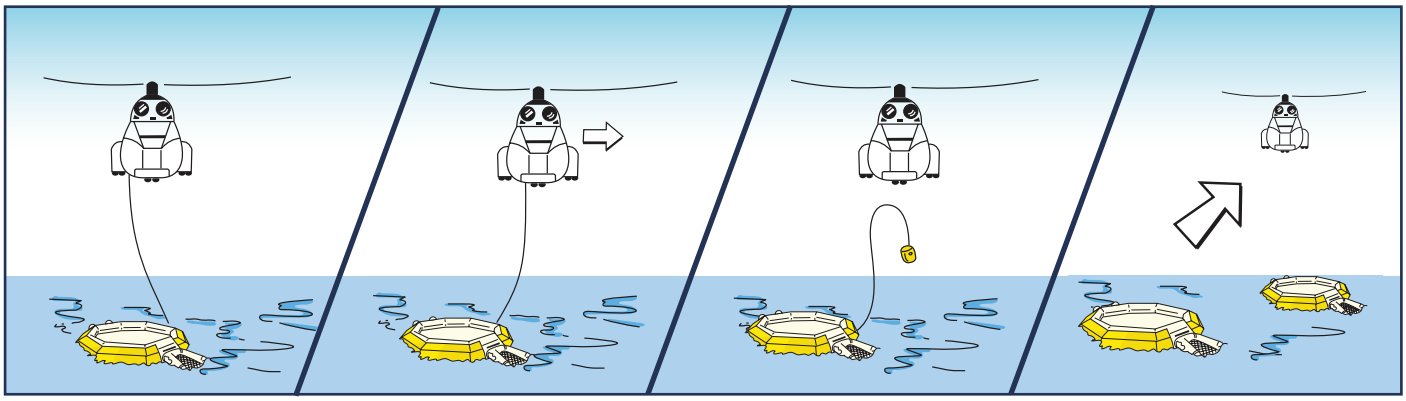
DIMENSIONS				
RAFT	**Rated Capacity**	**Overload Capacity**	**Packed Weights (kgs)**	**Packed Dimensions (mm)**
Heliraft 7R	7	11	30.8	1200 x 350 dia
Heliraft F7R	7	11	38.0	640 x 400 dia
Heliraft 10R	10	15	41.0	1200 x 350 dia
Heliraft F10R	10	15	44.5	1200 x 350 dia
Heliraft F14R	14	21	43.5	1200 x 350 dia
Heliraft 18R	18	27	54.0	1200 x 350 dia
Heliraft F18R	18	27	60.0	1000 x 400 dia
Aerolite 4F	4	6	26.0	640 x 400 dia
Aerolite 10	11	17	35.0	1200 x 350 dia

*All dimensions and weights are approximate and subject to slight variation

SYSTEM DEPLOYMENT - HOVER MODE

The RFD SAR-Raft (H) can be deployed from a helicopter in hover mode. The helicopter hovers near the survivors, and the unit is dropped, connected by 2 lines controlled by the operator. When the Raft is in position, the dispatcher pulls the operating line to activate liferaft inflation.

The operator then drops the free end of the line, and as the helicopter sideslips, the floating line is deployed. The floating line can then be dropped or linked to a second liferaft. When another liferaft is dropped, the sequence is repeated.



SAR RAFT CONFIGURATIONS FOR HOVER AIRCRAFT

DIMENSIONS				
RAFT	**Rated Capacity**	**Overload Capacity**	**Packed Weights (kgs)**	**Packed Dimensions (mm)**
Heliraft 7R	7	11	30.8	930 x 380 dia
Heliraft 10R	10	15	35.0	930 x 380 dia
Heliraft F14R	14	21	39.0	940 x 380 dia
Aerolite 4F	4	6	26.0	580 x 370 dia

SAR LIFERAFT

FIXED & ROTARY WING SAR PLATFORMS

Available on virtually any fixed and rotary wing platform, the RFD SAR Raft is designed to meet a large number of specific mission requirements.

Platforms include:

- Bombardier Dash 8
- Fokker 27/50
- Dornier Do228
- C47 Dakota
- C130 Hercules
- LET 410
- S61
- Westland SeaKing
- Eurocopter AS330/332
- Kawasaki Vertol 107
- Super King Air
- Boeing 707
- Piaggio P166 DL3
- Cessna P95
- BAE Jetstream 41/HS125
- Westland Sea Lynx
- Aerospatiale AS365
- Sikorsky S76
- Sikorsky S92

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GET IN TOUCH

Email: info@beaufort.group

Unit A, Aviator Industrial Park, Eric Fountain Road,
Ellesmere Port, CH65 1AX, UK