

# HARK

## Helicopter Aerial Rescue Kit

The HARK is an air-to-sea rescue system, manually deployed from rotary winged aircraft. Each kit deployed provides temporary shelter, with sufficient survival contents to sustain life for 6-10 persons for 24 hours. Up to 2 kits with buoyant, connecting rope can be dropped allowing for refuge for 12-20 persons in one deployment pass.

The system includes a drogue chute to slow and stabilize the descent to a safe velocity on water impact. An added feature is the option to disengage the drogue chute for low-level drops.

Accuracy of delivery is enhanced by a proprietary water-activated device which inflates the life raft upon the kit's immersion in water and minimizes wind drift during descent. The rafts are inflated upon water entry by a compressed gas cylinder.

A fast-acting, automatically-deployed sea anchor improves raft inflation and stability characteristics. The life raft is packed in a way to promote a "right way up" attitude during inflation; although this is not a guarantee, it has achieved 100% right-way-up inflation in more than thirty consecutive drops during trials of the Airborne Systems Aerial Rescue Kit on which the HARK is based.



TECHNICAL DATA	
Item	Specification
Life Raft Separation :	Up to 250 ft (2 kits)
Rate of Descent :	70 ft/sec
Typical Single Kit Weight :	70-80 lbs (subject to life raft/ kit selection)
Deployment Speed/ Altitude :	From a hover to 90 kts @ 300-500 ft MSL



This data sheet is for information only and shall not form part of a contract

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## HARK advantages

- **PROVEN DESIGN**

The HARK System is a modified version of Airborne Systems' Aerial Rescue Kit (ARK) which has been in service with the Canadian Forces SAR teams since 2006.

All units are identical and interchangeable. Its compact design aids in handling, portability and storage. Contents are vacuum packed to increase life.

- **SURVIVAL EQUIPMENT PACKED INSIDE OF LIFE RAFT**

This ensures quick and easy access to life saving equipment which means that exhausted and possibly injured survivors do not have to spend additional energy pulling and then lifting the equipment into the raft.

- **CUSTOMIZATION OF SURVIVAL CONTENTS**

Survival contents specified by customer to suit the environment of use. Typically, items include blankets, water, first aid kit, flares, radio, etc.

- **INFLATION AT SEA LEVEL**

After water immersion, inflation of the life raft and deployment of a fast acting sea anchor is automatic. This is a major improvement over systems that inflate life rafts in the air, and are prone to being blown out of position. The Airborne Systems ARK descends to the water quickly and by the time the rafts inflate, the sea anchor is already deployed. Typically systems are deployed within 50 feet of target.

- **EASY ACCESS**

The buoyant, connecting rope guides survivors to the nearest life raft, creating an important lifeline to safety especially in stormy conditions.

- **TRAINING KITS AVAILABLE**

A training system is available which replicates the operational system in size, weight, and form. The only major visual difference is the color that makes it easily recognizable.

The training systems allow for practice drops to train new personnel and improve accuracy without actually using a life raft, thereby saving on maintenance and re-packing of the life rafts. The training kits need only to be rinsed with fresh water and placed vertically to air-dry and allow water to drain out.

