

You Asked, We Tested...

Ask rope rescue experts how large a pulley tread diameter should be and you will get several answers: 3 times the rope's diameter, 4 times, 8 times. We have heard all of these answers, but when does the bend in the rope really begin to affect the rope's strength? Each of these ratios can be found in the literature, which suggested a test project was needed.

Over the last three years, CMC test projects have exposed rescue rope to a number of abuses including heat, chemicals, and other suspicious substances. After each presentation, we would get a number of "what about _____?" questions, and during the year we have also investigated those substances as well.