

IKAR 2011 Air Rescue Report

The Mountain Rescue Association provides U.S. representation at the **International Commission for Alpine Rescue** (Internationale Kommission für Alpines Rettungswesen-**IKAR**), which includes 30 member countries from around the globe at an annual congress conducted in Europe. This assembly is attended by rescue professionals from all over the globe, who are authorities in the fields of helicopter air rescue, terrestrial rescue, avalanche rescue as well as mountain emergency medicine. With a history reaching back to 1948, **IKAR** has frequently been the venue for new ideas within mountain rescue. The **IKAR** Congress was held in Åre, Sweden, October 18 – 23, 2011.

The Mountain Rescue Association website contains detailed reports on the proceedings from **IKAR**, which are available at:

<http://www.mra.org/index.php/training/ikar-reports>

A significant part of the annual **IKAR Air Rescue Report** is the review of accidents involving rescuers, near-misses and important lessons learned. Rescue personnel are encouraged to review the annual reports and consider sharing this vital safety information with their own team toward the ultimate goal of preventing future accidents.