

Tracked Stretcher System

April 29/2025

To whom it may concern:

I have been in the Fire Service for 27 years both in Rural and Urban Fire Departments.

During my time as a paid-on-call firefighter in a rural municipality there were numerous times where we were forced to carry a patient through snow over significant distances. Carrying a patient in a stokes basket over long distances is an extremely inefficient method of patient transport. Due to the inefficiency, it created a delay in getting the patient into a hospital setting. Not only was it physically strenuous, the mental fatigue attached to it was also significant.

Having the capability to continue CPR while a patient is being transported on a tracked stretcher system would provide a higher probability of patient recovery.

Speaking from the Urban firefighting aspect, I am one of the Rescue Team Managers for Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Ontario Task Force 4. The capabilities of the Tracked Stretcher System would prove invaluable during patient removal from areas that are inaccessible to conventional stretchers. With the increase of significant weather events/ natural disasters and the inability to reach patients in a timely fashion, having the capacity to bring a patient out using this device would also free up staff to continue other lifesaving work.

I firmly believe this will be the Gold Standard of patient care in the very near future.

Sincerely,

Shaun

A/Capt Shaun Hunt

Ottawa Fire Services.