



**MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE  
DRIVER/OPERATOR TRAINING PROGRAM**

## Practical Application Guide Sheet

### Rescue Squad – Winch Operations

**Candidate Performance Competency:** Candidate will demonstrate proficiency in the use of mounted and portable winches on the apparatus.

Task	Value	Score
1. Identify length and capacity of all powered and manual winches on the apparatus.	5	
2. Identify all operational components of the apparatus mounted winch: Clutch lever, remote cable.	4	
3. Identify the power supply of all winches.	2	
4. Identify all care and maintenance needs of the winch and cable.	4	
5. Identify all types of load attachments carried on the Rescue Squad, their characteristics and their capabilities.	4	
6. Identify proper apparatus placement for winch operations to achieve an optimal in-line pull. Determine if a change of direction is needed and available.	4	
7. Identify proper apparatus preparation for winch operations: wheel chock, parking brake applied, loose equipment removed. <b>(CFP)</b>	5	
8. Prepare the winch to free-spool the cable from the winch.	3	
9. Identify proper snatch block to for use with the winch.	5	
10. Identify when to use a snatch block.	5	
11. Identify proper anchor for snatch block use.	5	
12. Prepare cable for loading by removing any twists.	5	
13. Attach the cable to the load using proper attachments.	5	
14. Ensure that a minimum of 5 wraps of cable are remaining on the winch spool prior to tensioning the line. <b>(CFP)</b>	5	
15. Place a tarp, running coat or other weighted object over the line to prevent whipping in case of cable failure.	5	
16. Clear all personnel from the operation area.	5	
17. Ensure a second person checks the system for safety.	5	
18. Identify one person to call the pull and only accept commands from that person.	5	

Task	Value	Score
19. Engage the winch and place tension on the load. <b>(CFP)</b>	5	
20. Safely remove the tension from the line. <b>(CFP)</b>	5	
21. Rewind the cable while the inspecting for damage.	4	
22. Ensure that the cable winds smoothly on the spool to eliminate kinking.	5	
<b>Total Points</b>	100	

## **Critical Fail Points**

*Failure to successfully perform any of the following components will result in an automatic failure of this evolution regardless of total score.*

- a) Failure to secure the winching vehicle prior to pulling tension
- b) Failure to ensure sufficient cable remains on the spool prior to winching
- c) Inability to complete the objective
- d) Loss of control of the load or shocking loading the cable

**Evaluator: Initial beside the final outcome of the exam below.**

\_\_\_\_ **PASS**    \_\_\_\_ **FAIL – Overall Points**    \_\_\_\_ **FAIL – Critical Failure Point**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Evaluator Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Evaluator Signature**