

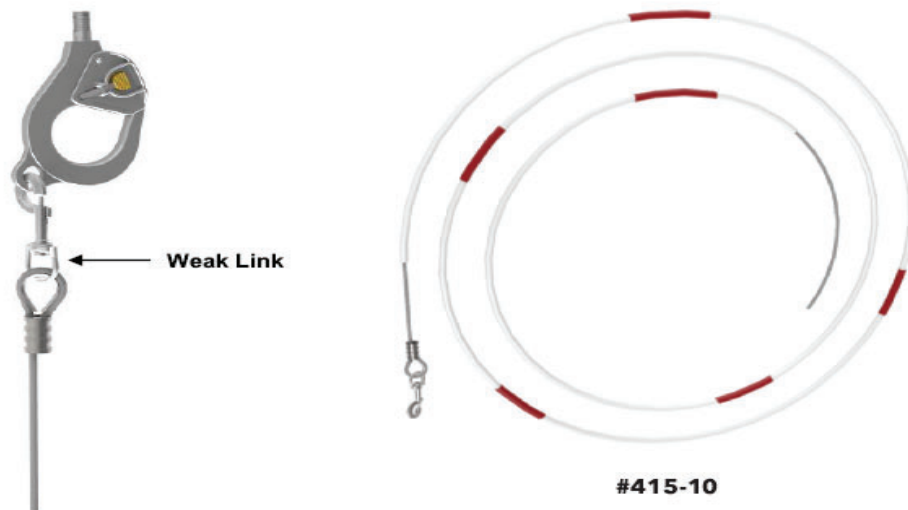
MEDEVAC

Static Electricity Discharge

PD MEDEVAC has received recent inquiries from the fleet regarding guidance or options to mitigate the effects of static electricity during hoist operations. The presence and effects of static electricity during hoist operations is well known and a relatively common occurrence across all services in varying degrees depending upon the operational environment, particularly in less humid environments.

The use of a static discharge cable greatly assists in mitigating this issue, as specified in the Army Aviation Rescue Hoist Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). **CAUTION:** During hoist operations, the load must be grounded before the ground crew can handle it to discharge static electricity. One solution is the Lifesavings Systems Corporation (LSC) #415-10 static discharge cable. The #415 static discharge cable depicted below, has been in utilization by U.S. Army H-60 MEDEVAC units for some time. Finally, units have the option to manufacture their own static discharge cable versus procuring a commercial product.

The static discharge cable attaches to the hoist hook as shown in the graphic, hangs below the crewman, and is intended to discharge static electricity to the ground. The commercial product includes an integrated weak link (200 lb.) to allow the cable to separate from the hook in the event of entanglement. The cable is coated in white insulation with retro-reflective red markers for low-light visibility.



#415-10 Static Discharge Cable	
Weight:	0.72lbs (.32kg)
Dimensions:	10 feet
Breaking Limit:	200lb at weak link
Cable:	5/32", 7x7 Stainless Steel Type 316
Bolt Snap:	3/4" Swivel End

If you have any questions regarding the static discharge cable, please contact Mr. Michael Brooks, PD MEDEVAC, 256-313-1204, michael.w.brooks28.civ@army.mil, or Mr. Will Mason, PD MEDEVAC, 256-313-6903, william.w.mason4.ctr@army.mil.