



IndeeLift HFLs for Emergency Medical Services

"Bridging the Gap from the Ground to the Gurney!"
Lift and Transport

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is an IndeeLift HFL for EMS?

The IndeeLift Human Floor Lift (HFL) models for Emergency Medical Services are tools developed specifically to eliminate manual lifting and transporting of patients by emergency response service providers on medical-emergency and lift-assist calls. There are two models: The HFL-500-E is the standard EMS HFL model and the HFL-550-E is the bariatric version.

The elimination of manual patient lifting and carrying greatly increases safety with far-reaching health and economic benefits to the patient, the EMS team and the agency or service provider. These tools are designed to stow on EMS apparatus, using minimal space while meeting the rigorous field requirements of public safety agencies.

What do they do?

IndeeLift EMS HFLs lift patients from the ground and transport them from many places inaccessible to any other lift and transport devices. The HFL is rolled to a patient on the ground or floor and, after mounting, safely lifts the patient to a height of 21 inches. Once the patient has been lifted, they can simply stand up from the HFL and walk away, as they would from any chair. The HFL can also be used to transport the patient to a waiting gurney or emergency response apparatus, if needed, (e.g., ambulance, paramedic van, etc.).

While specifically designed to lift and transport patients, IndeeLift HFLs for EMS can also be used for the transportation of EMT gear from the apparatus to the incident site, or as a field chair providing patient comfort while facilitating evaluation and treatment in roadside or field situations. EMS HFLs, with their wide and deep seat surfaces, are ideal to assist in the lift and transport of heavy hoses, training dummies, gas cylinders, and other generally unwieldy equipment around the station and in the field, *minimizing the potential for lift-related injuries not associated with human lifts, but just as serious.*

Can IndeeLift EMS HFLs actually *save* money for my fire agency?

Yes. Many safety devices are purchased for rare but critical rescue operations and are used in a very limited number of situations. IndeeLift EMS HFLs will be used many times each month, assisting patients up from the floor or ground. Eliminating manual lifting greatly minimizes the potential for EMS staff or patient injuries related to manual lifting, ultimately saving the money associated with paying for overtime, medical costs and workers' compensation policy premiums.

Unlike most safety tools, IndeeLift EMS HFLs truly provide a safer working environment while simultaneously saving substantial amounts of money in direct workers' compensation claims. It has been estimated that eliminating workers' compensation claims directly related to patient-lifts could save a 100-person agency up to \$500k per year in policy premium costs alone. *When you consider the savings year after year, there is a significant long-term payoff associated with any agency's use of IndeeLift HFLs for EMS!*



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How are the EMS HFLs used to lift patients?

The outriggers are deployed and the patient scoots, or is assisted onto the HFL's seat using a number of available techniques. The lift is activated using a sealed up/down rocker switch and the patient is smoothly and safely lifted to a height up to 21 inches in 60 seconds, allowing the patient to stand and walk away or be transferred to a wheelchair or gurney, if needed.

How are the EMS HFLs used to transport patients?

The patient is secured to the HFL using the two belt assemblies included with each unit. Connection points are provided allowing waist, chest and over-the-shoulder options for securing patients in preparation for transport. Once the patient is secured, a single operator can safely transport patients down hallways, around corners and through doorways that are inaccessible to any gurney.

What about patients down in very tight spaces (such as a bathroom or a small space between a bed and bedroom wall)?

IndeeLift EMS HFLs are compact in size and can be used in many places inaccessible to multiple EMS staff or gurneys -- including small rooms, hallways or bathrooms. Additionally, the optional "IndeeChuck" patient maneuvering tool makes it easy to retrieve and move a patient from a tight space to a place where they can be lifted using the HFL. Once on the IndeeChuck, the EMS personnel can easily move the patient without risk of injury to either party. Using the IndeeChuck tool, a fallen person of any size can be safely moved by as few as two EMS personnel. *You can see the IndeeChuck in action by viewing our IndeeLift HFL for EMS Training Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MFSVWPp2Hm4>*

Do the EMS HFLs have the ability to go up and down stairs?

Yes. IndeeLift HFLs for EMS are equipped from the factory to generally be safe for a single operator to navigate three or fewer stairs with a patient on the lift. Detachable stair-negotiation handles and tread/track accessories allow for easy patient transport via stairwells!

Can EMS HFLs be used to lift a patient strapped to a backboard?

Yes. IndeeLift HFLs for EMS easily lift a patient strapped to a backboard, allowing them to be transferred to a gurney, *effectively eliminating the need for manual lifting.*

What are the weight capacities of both models?

Weighing only 50 lbs., the HFL-500-E can easily lift and transport patients weighing 500 pounds. *The linear actuator is actually rated at 600 pounds and we current limit it at that level.* The HFL-550-E bariatric model is rated at 550 pounds, providing a 2:1 safety ratio based on actuator capacity. In an emergency, it will far exceed its rated capacity and is designed for lifting and transporting large and/or heavy patients, *(it has been tested and verified to lift in excess of 800 pounds)!*



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Can they be used to transport our first responder's equipment on medical assist calls?

Yes. IndeeLift HFLs for EMS are designed to be used as a dolly for EMS personnel. Upon arrival, they load and transport their equipment to the patient without any strain to the involved personnel. *Additionally, IndeeLift EMS HFLs serve as a field chair for extended triage and/or treatment and recovery!*

We already have specialized rescue tools that don't get used very often, so why do we need another tool?

Safety is paramount! Many specialized rescue tools are designed for unusual circumstances that don't happen very often, *(and may only be used once in a year or two)*. IndeeLift HFLs for EMS are designed to be used for all medical-emergency and lift-assist dispatches where a patient is on the ground and unable to get up, (or get on a gurney), under their own power. Considering medical-emergency and lift-assist calls represent up to 75% of all EMS dispatches with 1/3 or more of these calls requiring a lift-assist of some sort to get the patient up from the floor or ground and on to a gurney, this tool will be used more often than most fire-safety equipment, *including hoses and ladders!*

What are the footprints of the EMS HFLs?

- **The HFL-500-E** measures 8" deep by 20" wide and 33" tall in its stowed configuration. Fully deployed (outriggers out and seat down) the unit itself is 24" deep by 20" wide by 33" tall.
- **The HFL-550-E** measures 12" deep by 22" wide and 35" tall in its stowed configuration. Fully deployed (outriggers out and seat down) the unit itself is 24" deep by 22" wide by 35" tall.

The fully deployed dimensions, plus the space required for the patient, are necessary to execute a lift.

What powers the HFLs during use?

IndeeLift HFLs for EMS are fully self-contained and are powered by 24 volt, 4AH rechargeable Lithium Ion battery packs.

How do you charge the HFLs battery pack?

Each HFL comes complete with a battery pack and charging station that plugs into any standard AC wall outlet. The charging station fully charges the battery pack overnight.

How many uses can we expect from an EMS HFL between charges?

Each charge provides between 30 and 40 lifts, depending on patient weight.



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What is the history of this product in the field?

IndeeLift HFLs for EMS are new products. Field trials have been ongoing since July 1, 2016. Since we deployed the HFLs for EMS, stations that have been using them have not had a single manual-lift related injury, while there have been multiple injuries out of the stations without our lifts. Each of these injuries rose to the level of a workers' compensation claim, costing the department substantial amounts of money, disruption to their teams, and difficulty for their staff.

How are the IndeeLift HFLs for EMS constructed?

IndeeLift HFLs for EMS are designed and built in a factory in Livermore, CA. The main components are plated and powder coated or made of stainless-steel. We only have two parts that we import; Lithium Ion battery packs and linear actuators. Both are unavailable from manufacturers in the United States. The machines are built to be very rugged and able to take rough handling as might be the case in difficult field operations.

The control assembly is manufactured in the mid-west with a fully potted (sealed) rocker switch that is rated at 1,000,000 operations. The actuator is rated at 10,000 cycles at full load. It is manufactured by Linak in Denmark. *You will recognize the actuator as the same type used in hospital approved equipment all over the world. Many powered beds, Hoyer type lifts and other patient handling equipment that use linear actuators include Linak products. These components are certified for hospital use and are practically bullet proof!*

What is the anticipated life expectancy of these tools?

IndeeLift HFLs for EMS are day-to-day use tools, with an anticipated life-expectancy of at least a decade. *We are highly confident in our design, construction and components, and believe our HFLs will outlast the apparatus on which they reside!*

Is it easy to clean and/or decontaminate these HFLs after use?

Yes. All IndeeLift HFLs feature industrial-strength, powder-coated and stainless-steel finishes to allow quick, easy cleaning and decontamination.

What are the maintenance requirements?

IndeeLift HFLs for EMS require no maintenance. They are built to last *at least* a decade or more. They are designed to be free of maintenance for the life of the product. There is nothing to lube or maintain. They can be cleaned with the pressure washer or standard cleaning products. NOTE: *It is recommended that departments have a primary battery and a second battery in the charger for each unit at the station (for weekly cycling).*



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Do these HFLs come with a warranty ... and what does the warranty cover?

IndeeLift HFLs for EMS come with a 1 year warranty that supports all of the components and workmanship, (other than the battery packs). We troubleshoot, send parts and help with phone support to change parts. We will ship units in for repair and back to department at no cost if we can't solve the problem in the field. IndeeLift is very confident in our design, construction, and components! NOTE: Extended three-year, all-inclusive warranties are available at the time of purchase for \$499 per unit.

We prefer to make repairs in-house to minimize downtime and availability of the equipment. Do the HFLs have any field-repairable components?

Yes! If a linear actuator fails, they are field replaceable in minutes with minimal mechanical ability and a couple of wrenches. If the control switch assembly fails, it can be replaced in ten minutes. We are confident in our machines and the simplicity of repair in the rare case that repairs are needed, and can ship replacement parts overnight anywhere in the country!

Does IndeeLift make other Human Floor Lift products that can help reduce the amount of medical assist calls related to lifting patients from the ground?

Yes. In addition to our Human Floor Lifts designed specifically for first responders, IndeeLift has developed additional lines of HFLs for healthcare professionals as well as home and business users. Our goal is to minimize lift-assist calls by providing our professional models to acute hospitals and skilled nursing facilities, and our home & business models to assisted living, senior residential facilities and homes ...*allowing individuals to safely be lifted without the need to call for Emergency Medical Services!*

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