Rescue Rope System Saves FDNY Firefighter

On December 31, 2007, a New York City Firefighter became the first person to use a rescue rope system to rescue himself from being trapped in a blaze. During a three-alarm fire in a 4-story building in Brooklyn, Firefighter Ray Pollard, 50, was searching for victims in the building when a partial collapse left him trapped on the top floor of the building. Pollard used his rescue rope to lower himself out the window where he was rescued by fellow firefighters. He suffered burns on one hand and was treated at a local hospital and released. Later in the fire the roof of the building collapsed.