Vehicle on its side / on its roof

Special attention should always be given to potential hazards. This can include dangerous fluids that may have leaked out of the vehicle.

The procedure

STRUT CHOICE: A good strut type for this application is a basic manual strut.

1. To ensure the vehicle will not roll towards its roof side, start by supporting it under the A and C pillars.
   Think ahead, avoid placing stabilization in areas where you are likely to need to cut later during the extrication.

2. Now place a base for your shore on the other side of the vehicle.
   It may also be useful to preposition the tension straps you will need later to secure the base of your shore.

3. Next, position your shore between the vehicle and the base.
   Remember to pay attention to the point of contact between the vehicle and your shore ensuring a stable point of contact.
   A cross head usually works best for this.

4. Finally, secure your shore by tightening the tension straps between the base and the vehicle. At the same time recheck your chocks on the other side.

5. It is important to have stable contact points between the vehicle and your straps. Also always try to attach your straps as low as possible.

6. In some cases it may also be necessary to stabilize the top / roof side of the vehicle.

7. By using two hydraulic struts it is also possible to lift a vehicle on its side in a very controlled manner so as to free a trapped limb.

STRUT CHOICE: A good strut type for this application is a hydraulic Auto-lock type.

1. Chock the space between the roof of the vehicle and the ground. This may be easiest with inverted step chocks.

2. In some cases it may be necessary to add additional blocks between the engine compartment and the windshield for added stability.

3. The pillars of a vehicle on its roof are, in most cases, supporting the weight of the underside of the car. For this reason, shoring to take over this support should be applied before cutting any of the pillars to create space.

4. By using the tension straps attached to the base of your shores in combination with the opening of the shores, the system is secured.

Remember not to use too much of the stroke of your shores that you may need later during space creation.

5. It should now be possible to make any cuts through pillars that may be necessary for space creation.

6. If components of the vehicle will be lifted with the ram to create space, the change in height should be secured by following up with the struts.

7. When the space has been created and the shores are locked in place, detach and remove any unnecessary hoses that may be tripped over.

As seen in
“Holmatro’s Emergency Shoring & Lifting Techniques”

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