

## **What happens on the bridge...doesn't cause a splat**

Be ready when it is your turn to come out on the bridge. We don't want to let the rope hang idle for a minute. The goal is to have the next person ready to cross the rail the instant the belayer calls the rope free. Remember YOU may be the one that gets an extra ride. However, once you cross the railing do not try to rush, this is YOUR time, relax and enjoy the experience.

Before coming out the catwalk, check that all loose clothing, personal items, and hair is secured. Do not step on the bridge with anything that is not tied on to you including cameras, radios, and etc. You could very easily kill someone below by dropping a small item.

If you don't like standing on the catwalk without being clipped in, you must bring something to loop over the handrail. Do not clip into the mainline when someone else is rappelling.

Upon reaching our rig point, your harness and gear must be double checked by the safety person or another member of the team before crossing the railing, no exceptions.

Decide where you want any accessory packs or other items to ride on the descent and get them in place. If you have something that is easier to attach after you are on the rope give it to the rigger (it must have a biner on it) with an explanation of where it goes.

Determine if you will climb over or through the railing and attach your safety to the mainline following the route you intend to take.

After crossing the railing take the majority of the slack out of your safety, this will minimize the fall should you slip and give you room to rig your rack.

Connect your rack to the main line. Connect enough bars to be able to hold yourself at a stop.

After connecting your rack the safety person or another member of our team will verify the rack is laced correctly and all biners are locked.

Pull your safety down to just above the top of your rack so the rack is now your main connection point to the rope.

Sit down to place your weight on the rack.

After a last visual inspection (and assuming the rack holds!), remove the safety.

Spread or remove bars as necessary and enjoy the ride.

As you leave the W plate DO NOT push off. Simply sit and slide past the plate.

Notes:

There will always be an ESSO person manning the top of the rope. This person will be referred to as 'ESSO Bridge' or 'ESSO Top' on the radio. There also will always be an ESSO person at the bottom of the rope referred to as 'ESSO Bottom' or 'ESSO Belay' on the radio.