The NASA space capsule recovery platform

This recovery platform is designed to be independent of the space capsule stabilization collar.

This is the 2016 model. That was used to determine the new features for 2017 model.

One Idea is to give astronauts a recovery space where they can become accustomed to gravity even if they are out on the ocean for a prolonged period. The 2017 model is designed with many new features like ballast bags, a canopy, and ladders. It will also have more drain openings, and they will be pluged with inflatable drop stitch panels

When I first saw the proposal, I thought, this is not possible. You cannot make an inflatable with a flat top. Then I thought about putting a drop stitch part on top, and a lesser pressure inflatable on the bottom. It is not flat, but it could be darn close. We are all very excited to hear how well this idea works, how something so different is interpreted by the Para jumpers who use it, and the Astronauts that will sit inside of it. We look forward to adding any new information to this document that you think will benefit the design process.

This is a photo of the dive team installing the rescue platform to the old stabilization collar in a training exercise, in an actual ocean environment. This test was instrumental in the

development and up grading of the system. It will include a new Stabilization collar that we are building for them.

Things have certainly come a long way since these days, and I am sure that astronauts feel much safer with the help that they receive. After a couple weeks in space it is very difficult to stand up.

You will be able to see both the Stabalization Collar and the Front Porch Products in this video

This picture includes a stabilization collar, a standard whitewater raft, and an inflatable rescue slide. Go to the link above and you will see the new collar, and a new raft model expressly designed with safety of astronauts in mind. The Versions we built in 2017 are upgrades from these. We are proud to be a part of the space program without contribution. The folks at the Neutral Buoyancy Lab have been great partners in the design of these items. We are not making the balls this year. However in 2013 they were used to test some important Capsule uprighting information.

The NBL (Neutral Bouyancy Lab) invited me down for a day to their facility. We talked about the new design, and I was given the best tour of the NASSA facilities that included 56 years of inflatable recovery systems. We are so proud to be a part of this system upgrade. We are very hopeful that these systems will enable faster recovery and safer recovery times for Astronauts.

Here is a video from you tube, that shows Divers and Astronauts working together. They are training for space-walks outside of the International space station. They have the whole Space Station crammed into this rather Giant swimming pool. That is 40 feet deep. Divers support Astronauts for various reasons, but one is that buoyancy changes with Depth, and it is important that the Astronauts maintain neutral buoyancy as they work for training purposes.

You can see this rescue raft and the Orion collar with the same drop stitch/ half moon feature in action at this video clip. You will recongize our product because it has the dark superman mesh surface as a non skid surface.

The front porch system in 2017:

This is a picture and a computer design of the system we built for NASA in 2017. It has a removable and deployable inflatable canopy, and the Rescue crew really liked it. There are still some minor changes to the design. However these are the major additions.

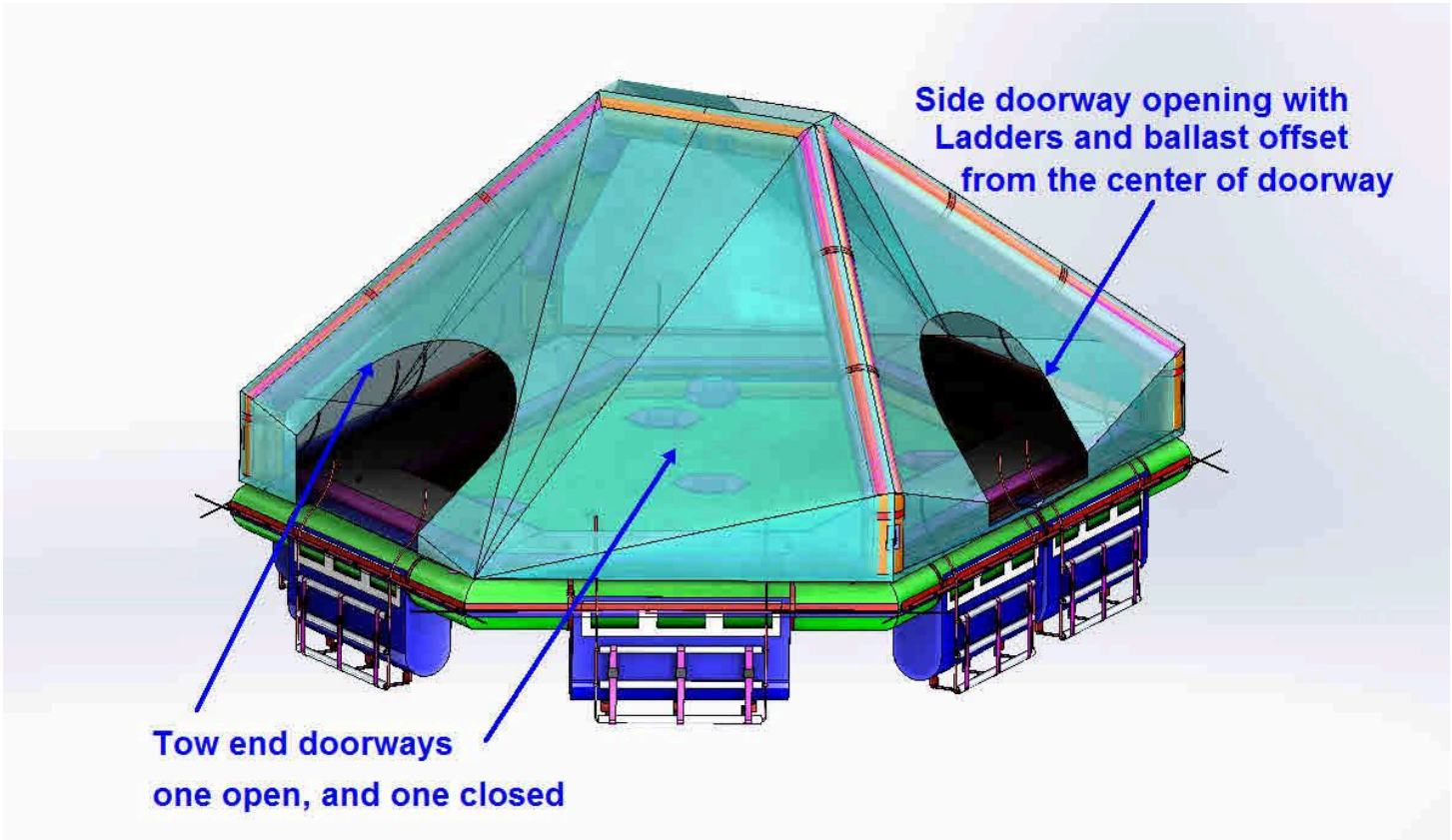
-Inflatable canopy that can be stowed in a bag that zips along the side. It can be ½ deployed, or all the way deployed.

-8 ballast bags that hold 300 lbs of water weight each, to keep the unit on the water.

- Mesh bags for cargo

-Aluminum rung ladders.

-6 inch thick drop stitch floor with anti skid mesh, and 5 seperate removable port holes in the inflatable floor.


Side doorway opening with
Ladders and ballast offset
from the center of doorway
Tow end doorways
one open, and one closed

This is a list of the part names. Note that the canopy storagr bag is not shown because It is not stuffed full of canopy.