

Bio:

Steve Glassey is the current Chair on the Board of Directors for the International Technical Rescue Association.

His background in rescue spans over twenty years across numerous agencies including the New Zealand Fire Service (now FENZ), Ministry for Civil Defense & Emergency Management, Ambulance Rescue Squad, NZ USAR Task Force 1, SPCA National Rescue Unit, United Nations (Disaster Management) and Rescue 3 International.

He was instrumental of setting new national qualifications in New Zealand for urban search and rescue and specialist rope rescue, as well as pioneering vehicle rescue from swift water and body recovery from water, both earning national and international (Higgins & Langley) awards respectively.

He has worked around the world in numerous disasters, as well as technical rescue incidents in New Zealand including Christchurch 2011 earthquake, Edgecumbe 2017 flood, Samoan 2009 Tsunami, Typhoon Ketsana 2009 (Laos), Typhoon Yolanda 2013 (Philippines), Bryans Beach Landslide 2004 and many others. He has provided technical advice to Coronial Inquests on specialist rescue and remains an appointed Expert Witness for swift water rescue to the Ministry of Justice.

Currently, he is based in Wellington, New Zealand as the Director of the Public Safety Institute (New Zealand) and is completing a PhD in animal disaster management.

Abstract:

In 2018, the International Technical Rescue Association was legally formed to create the world's first non-profit trade association for technical rescue. The vision for the new association is to create a collaborative and professional technical rescue industry. As a member owned and governed non-profit, the flagship product is new qualifications across the technical rescue disciplines of rope, swift water, companion animal, urban search and rescue, and tactical rope rescue also. The ITRA training system creates a uniquely flexible training curriculum allowing it be customized to meet state or national standards. In addition to training through appointed Instructors, a new assessment process is being developed for the standardized ITRA global qualifications to create competency-based independent assessment. This session will be of interest to instructors and those responsible for training systems. The key focus of the presentation is to explain what ITRA is, how it operates, how technical rescue professionals can be involved, and how the ITRA training system can supplement (not necessarily replace) your certification program.