

FOREWORD

A formal “system” for where to hang your gear on your duty belt? Isn’t that bordering on the obsessive? As long as you can reach your gun, your Taser, and your handcuffs, what difference do fussy details make?

Plenty, as trainer Robert Hindi is eager to explain. A 23-year veteran officer of the Las Vegas (Nev.) Metropolitan Police Department, Hindi makes a convincing case that where and how you position your issued police equipment on your duty belt is a critical science with profound implications for your survival.

Tragic reports from the street confirm that argument. Consider, for example, the Missouri officer gunned down during a sudden attack on a vehicle stop who, it appears, was defenseless because her baton holder had jammed so tightly against her holster that she couldn’t draw her pistol. For want of a belt keeper properly placed her life was lost.

The “S.A.F.E.T.Y.” acronym in Hindi’s Duty Belt S.A.F.E.T.Y. System stands for Safer Accessibility and Faster, more Effective Tactics for You, and reflects his motto, “Two hands are better than one when it comes to combat.”

What he has devised is a solidly researched method for placing equipment on your duty rig according to its importance, while making everything you carry quickly accessible when you need it. In effect, he divides the area around your waist into zones of priority. Life-saving gear (sidearm, spare magazines, electronic control device, baton, OC, “mic,” and cuffs) is positioned to the front of your body, with less essential items (pager or cell phone, radio, extra cuffs, and flashlight) placed at the oblique rear corners. He recommends putting your latex glove pouch in the small of your back for soft support of your lumbar area.

His way of assembling things not only has the potential for saving your life; it has been proven to reduce those nagging back injuries and sciatic pains that seem chronic among veteran patrol officers.

Mere words cannot accurately describe how fast Hindi’s system lets you access two different pieces of life-saving equipment simultaneously when a force crisis comes your way. Indeed, the remarkable speed with which you can reach and deploy all your portable tools with both hands appears unique to this system. Moreover, Hindi’s approach allows you to range through all your control options with maximum efficiency, permitting not only escalation of force with blink-of-an-eye speed but rapid de-escalation, as well.

It took nearly 12 years of exhaustive research for Hindi to design the S.A.F.E.T.Y. System. The medical documen-

tation undergirding his conclusions includes papers from certified vestibular therapists who deal with the body’s balancing mechanisms, statements from orthopedic surgeons specializing in spinal health and rehabilitation, a review by a physician devoted to occupational and environmental medicine, along with input from numerous chiropractic practitioners. Some of the nation’s leading police trainers were also consulted, as were officers who adopted and field-tested Hindi’s belt configuration. The consensus opinion: all agree that the Hindi Duty Belt S.A.F.E.T.Y. System is a practical and revolutionary idea for outfitting today’s officers to best meet the challenges and threats of the job.

I first came to know Robert Hindi when I was co-producing the original Street Survival® Seminar for Calibre Press. He became something of an adjunct instructor for that program, demonstrating his outstanding skills with the expandable baton and introducing law enforcement to his ingenious invention, the patented Hindi Baton Cap.

I have continued my association with Robert since my affiliation with PoliceOne, the leading internet resource for law enforcement training and information. His reputation as one of today’s most innovative police tacticians is well deserved. His theories on police ergonomics and defensive tactics have proven out time and time again.

And I am convinced that because of its tactical, ergonomic, and psychomotor-skills advantages, his Duty Belt S.A.F.E.T.Y. System will quickly become the accepted standard of excellence for law enforcement professionals worldwide.

By Charles Remsberg
Author of “Street Survival” trilogy

