

Original Design Drawing of the MK 105 Vertical Replenishment Pendant

The illustration above is the original concept design drawing of what would become the MK 105 Vertical Replenishment (VERTREP) Pendent, used to carry external loads from the cargo hook of a helicopter. This design was conceived and prototyped by LCDR Joe Gardner, LT Paul Kilpatrick, and LTJG Mike Reber, members of HC-4 Det Norfolk as they prepared for the first VERTREP deployment onboard USS SYLVANIA in 1965. The MK 105 VERTREP Pendant and the procedures these pioneers developed have remained in use, unchanged, for the past 42 years. The MK 105 has been used to transport millions of tons of cargo and virtually every piece of ordnance in the Navy and Marine Corps inventory since 1965 and it remains the critical link between the logistics helicopter and the vital supplies that allow sustained combat power projection and persistence of U.S. Naval Forces worldwide.