

IMPORTANT! Please read....

ATTENTION WELL DRILLERS. DO NOT BOLT THEFETCH DIRECTLY TO EQUIPMENT. IT NEEDS TO BE ABLE TO MOVE FREELY TO KEEP THE DOGS SQUARE TO THE PIPE WHILE PULLING. TWISTING WILL TWEAK THE FETCH, DAMAGE THE DOGS, AND MAY DROP THE PIPE RESULTING IN REPAIRING THE TOOL AND REPLACEMENT OF THE DOGS. USE HEAVY DUTY LINE OR CABLE.

1. Receiving TheFetch tool – All tools are shipped express with a tracking number. TheFetch is small enough to fit in a standard mailbox, so it may not be delivered direct to a doorstep. Every tool is inspected for performance, and it is possible that shipping damage may cause the tool to bind. Read all instructions and techniques before use and check the function of the slides to ensure all components move freely. Do not loosen the bolts or oil the slides. Please call DaPalCo for technical support.

2. Testing TheFetch tool – Checking the functions of tool and understanding how it works is important. Use a scrap section of pipe similar to the stuck pipe and lower the tool onto the side of the pipe. The dogs should move freely as the tool engages the pipe. Pulling up on TheFetch body will seat the dogs and create the force needed for retrieval. Letting go of the body and pulling up on the slides will release the dogs and disengage the tool from the pipe.

3. What to know about your well – In order to accomplish a successful retrieval, there are factors to consider. TheFetch works best on a straight well casing. If the casing is angled or damaged from natural events like a cave-in or an earthquake, it may not be possible to adjust to the correct angle to retrieve the pipe. Ensure that the casing goes all the way to the bottom of the well to the pump, and it may be unknown what the pump or pipe is stuck in. It could be mud, sand, or even caught on another object like a rock. It is also necessary to determine if the pump wire is still attached, or if any of the wires have dropped onto the pump. If so, the wires need to be cleared before retrieving the pump. TheFetch may be able to grab the wires to retrieve the pump as well, however, if the wire gets between the pump and casing, it can lodge the pump and make it irretrievable.

4. Setting up the Fetch tool – TheFetch needs to be able to rotate freely in the well. Use a heavy-duty rope or steel cable for the retrieval line. During testing, TheFetch 114-3 and 110-3 has held over 1,100 pounds of weight while smoothly lifting the test load. Bouncing or jerking the retrieval line amplifies the load, which can cause it to lose its bite on the pipe. A light duty rope can be used for the release line. The release is designed to reset TheFetch if it grabs an unintended object like a stray wire, or to get a better angle, but the dogs will lock into place after enough force is placed on the tool, making the release system inoperable.

5. How to find the pipe in the well and retrieve the pump- Let TheFetch down 2 or 3 feet beyond where the broken pipe is, and lower it along the casing wall. Bring it up about 2 or 3 feet higher than where you think it is and let TheFetch drop. Do not “fish” for the pipe by just raising and lowering the tool. It needs to be able to seat onto the pipe as much as possible. Each time you drop the Fetch, move 1 or 2 inches around the casing at a time. When it does not go all the way back down, you got it!

6. Retrieving the pipe/pump - *Important note:* After TheFetch grabs the pipe, *DO NOT immediately pull as hard as possible. Whether the pipe has been there for thirty minutes or thirty years, it is likely a vacuum will be created during the retrieval process, like a shoe getting stuck in mud. Bouncing or jerking multiplies the load and could break the retrieval line or invert the dogs, locking it onto the pipe. When the dogs invert on the pipe, the slides will lock, and the retrieval line will not function.* A come-along is recommended to start the initial pulling process because it provides the best control to break the vacuum around the pump. It is easier to get a feel for how much pulling pressure is being applied. Place around 200 pounds of pulling pressure on it and keep tension on TheFetch. If the broken pipe/pump does release right away, mark the retrieval line with a marker or a piece of tape for a reference point. After letting it set for a while, inspect the position of the mark to see if it has changed. Add a few more clicks on the come-along ratchet to increase tension on it again and repeat the process until the vacuum breaks to retrieve the pipe. Do not start pulling the pipe up or change to a hydraulic or electric winch until the vacuum has broken.

6. How to remove TheFetch tool from the pipe after a retrieval – Hit the main body at the top to release the tool from the pipe, NOT THE SLIDES, and refer to the instructions on the other side of the sheet to reset the tool if it is in a bind.

Replacement dogs are available; however, they may not be the same thickness as the ones that came with the tool due to tolerances during the manufacturing process. When replacing the dogs they may not move when tightening the barrel bolts. They may need to be rotated from side to side to align properly. If the barrel bolts are too tight and must be loosened so the dogs move freely, use blue Loc-Tite to secure them in place before use. Please call me with any questions. THANK YOU!!! - PAUL