Having operated for several years on a search and rescue helicopter in Alaska I can give firsthand information at how effective the Rescue Laser Flare really is.

I am happy to report that I never had to use it in a real emergency but we would incorporate them into training scenarios on a regular basis. Every winter I would take my newer crew members out and have the helicopter drop us off, we would then hike a short distance to a different LZ and we would test different signaling devices. Without fail the Rescue Laser Flare was almost always noted as being the most effective at getting the pilot's attention. Furthermore, the rugged design always helps in the field, I have used the Laser Flare at negative 30 degrees Fahrenheit and it worked.

In short, the Laser Flare is a very effective tool to have in your "tool box". It is not the only signaling device I carry, but when I go in the field I always make sure I have one with me.

Adam Davis