

Answer #53

The answer is (c); the center of mass will move straight down when the rod is released, as seen in an mpeg video by clicking your mouse on the photograph below.



Because there is no friction between the lower end of the rod and the air table, there is no horizontal force on the rod and the horizontal position of the center of mass cannot change.

[Archive 3](#)

[Question of the Week](#)

[Outreach Index Page](#)

[Lecture-Demonstration Home Page](#)



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