Mine Action Technology

14 June 2005
Report of Expert Working Group

What equipment do you need?
ITEP has already tested …

• More than 20 different vegetation cutters and flails
• 30 different metal detectors
• 2 dual-sensor mine detectors
• protective equipment
• 2 Ground Penetrating Radars
• 2 Vapour Detectors
• …. And much more. For example: Metal Detector Arrays
ITEP has tested all this and more - and published the results.

(http://www.itep.ws/)

- These are not just theoretical tests.
- Collaborative international testing of real equipment that you can buy NOW
- Establish “best practice” and develop test standards, as well as testing under real conditions

How does ITEP do this??

Pre-test conditions → Pre-test assessment → Performance Test → Survivability Test → Acceptance Test

To be provided by the manufacturer → Not included but recommended → Controlled conditions, repeatable tests, comparable results → Machine and the operator → Local conditions, environment, threats
Example: Tempest Mk 5 testing

Real world testing

For example, dual sensor detector testing will include:
- Testing in live areas
- Training independent deminers working for NGOs to use the equipment, and measuring their performance
- Testing as part of a REAL clearance operation.

BUT…
- This initially costs time and money and slows clearance.

*We need to invest now in this test and evaluation to get the benefits of technology tomorrow.*
The next steps

It has taken a lot of work to develop products, processes and standards for testing.

1. It is now time to work with Donors and End users in integrating already available technology into clearance operations.  
   *A workshop may help start this process.*

2. Proposal for Zagreb: *Independent* presentation of some of the best available technologies, including live demonstrations for end users and donors -- *not a trade fair.*

   Dual-sensor detectors, mechanical technologies, information technologies.

Summary

A clear focus on:

- available technologies
- independent and authoritative testing by experts
- real world tests by working deminers
- getting existing equipment into the field

Less emphasis on pure research of future technologies