Purpose

• improvement of the efficiency of the humanitarian mine clearance by scientific studies of new techniques

• Objectives of the association
  – To contribute by scientific studies to the improvement of new techniques for the detection, identification and neutralisation of antipersonnel mines.
  – To promote the co-operation of research centres, universities, schools
  – To transfer the developed techniques to humanitarian organisations which are involved in mines clearance
Methods

- sensitisation of scientists to the problems of mine clearance
- Practical information about the mine problem, in the ARTIDs web page: www.artid.org.
- The fundamental studies take place in laboratories, universities, schools
- As first step, an ideas-contest Brain StormINE

Peculiarities of the association

- The R&D programs (ESPRIT) connect research centres and industrial partners.
- exactly defined aim
- a close time frame (2-3 years).
- appropriate budget
- market-driven
- ARTID : non-profit association (volunteers)
- "upstream" research (new techniques),
- long-term objectives
- humanitarian purpose
- ARTID = scientific NGO
**Brain StorMINE**

• the creative ideas are to be found by the young people. (*Professor BOLMONT*)

• organisation of an ideas-contest for young people (students)

• sensitisation of the scientific world

• develop a creative idea which should improve an aspect of the technical problem of the humanitarian mine clearance

  • similar to canadian contest

**Brain StorMINE Organisation**

• Geographic area of the contest
  • France, Germany and Switzerland.
  • The languages of the contest are French and German

• information about mines and mine clearance,
  • documentation on WEBpage [www.artid.org](http://www.artid.org)
  • (Now in French language, will be translated later)

• Prices
  • The best innovative idea Price of 10 000 FF (given by the Conseil General of Haut-Rhin )
  • The best single work Price of 5 000 FF
  • The best group work Price of 5 000 FF

• Brain StorMINE takes place on the NET ([www.artid.org](http://www.artid.org))
Documentation and suggested techniques

- Contents of ARTID documentation
- To introduce scientists or technicians into the mine clearance problem.
- Differences between military and humanitarian mine clearance.
- Short description of the mines (more detailed information can be found in mine databases)
- Mine clearance procedures (Links to GICHD, different MACs, NGOs).
- Review of mine-clearance techniques
- Suggested new techniques
  - Active detection
  - Improvement of manual prodding
  - Improvement of neutralisation.

Active detection

- Watering the ground with warm water
- Observing the temperature distribution of the surface
- A buried item produces a higher temperature at the surface.
- Other markers can be used in water: ions, magnetic particles, chemical markers
Relationship

• ARTID's members are nearly all scientists.
• local and regional (political, scientific, educational) authorities
• relationships with national (French CNEMA) and international organisations

• "Swiss Deminers Group".
• informal group meets two or three times a year
• brings together people involved in mine clearance
• main task of the group is exchange of information
• Animator of the group is John CRAWFORD (PSI)

Summary

• ARTID, borne in France in March 2000, is a non-profit scientific NGO
• It intends to improve the efficiency of the demining techniques by initiating fundamental scientific studies
• ARTID gathers a practical documentation in its website www.artid.org
• Studies will be carried out in research centres, universities, schools, by students, trainees, graduate
• A competition, Brain StorMINE, is launched for sensitising young scientists to the improvement of technical aspects of demining
• Relationships are built up with different authorities, universities, schools, NGO and especially with the “Swiss deminers group”