



Press Release

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Mechanical Mine Clearance Equipment Catalogue 2003

The Mechanical Mine Clearance Equipment Catalogue, compiled by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), is a definitive list of demining machines on the international market.

The Catalogue features machines specifically designed for the clearance of landmines, commercial machines successfully adapted from other military or civilian purposes, and prototypes and machines still under development. It aims to be as comprehensive as possible and shall assist program manager in their decision to use mechanical equipments in mine clearance.

The Catalogue highlights the features of these different machines and provides concise explanation of their mode of operation. These are grouped in categories such as flails, tillers, combined systems, sifters, vegetation cutters, mine protected vehicles and “multi-tools”.

The information contained in the Catalogue comes from three main sources :

- Manufacturers, who explain the mode of operation and provide technical data and costs of their machines ;
- Feedback from the field by demining organisations, which assess the actual performance of systems, and offer suggestions for user requirements ;
- National and international evaluations and tests, where conducted.

The Catalogue has been requested by the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) and generously sponsored by the German Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Auswärtiges Amt). It will be updated annually. The 2003 issue is the second edition and available in hardcopy, CD-ROM or consulted on the GICHD website (www.gichd.ch – cf. Publications).

For further information please contact :

Davide Orifici

Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining
Phone : + 41 22 906 16 91 – Mobile : + 41 79 747 10 57
d.orifici@gichd.ch