



**INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM**  
**“HUMANITARIAN DEMINING 2007**  
**- MECHANICAL DEMINING”**  
**Sibenik, Republic of Croatia**  
**24 to 27 April 2007**  
**FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT**



### **Central Theme of the Symposium**

The central theme of the Humanitarian Demining 2007 Symposium will be **mechanical demining** and will specifically look at the following core issues that are of special interest to the mine action community:

- **Area Reduction**
- **Risk Management**
- **Cost Effectiveness**

### **Format of the Symposium**

This year there are some changes to the format of the 2007 Symposium as a result of feedback from those who have attended the 2006 Symposium and previous symposiums.

- The major emphasis will be on mechanical demining equipment, their impact and potential in demining operations.
- Increased emphasis will be placed on sharing experiences and promoting the use of machines in all geographic regions.
- Internationally recognized experts will make keynote presentations to introduce major themes that are of vital interest to the mine action community.

- Other presenters will be in the program, however, the numbers will be limited to permit longer discussions and questions from the floor. There will be also be poster displays.
- The exhibitors of equipment; including detectors, protective equipment; logistical support equipment, and of course demining machines, will be given more opportunities to display their equipment/products and permit more participants to communicate with the manufacturer representatives. (Coffee and refreshments will be served in the Exhibition Area.)

Those features of the symposium that have been very popular in the past shall be retained. A highlight will continue to be the **live outdoor comparative demonstration of demining machines**. Ample opportunities will be provided for informal meetings and discussions in the evenings and during the scenic tour offered at the end of the program. *A Book of Papers and Presentations* will be sent to all participants with a new section in it devoted to entries from manufacturers and the products.

## Participants of the Symposium

The 2007 Symposium will be of interest and great value to:

- ✓ The **User Community**, who will be able to share experiences, solution of technical and management problems, and be updated on the latest technologies, equipments and methods available. Those considering introducing mechanical demining or expanding the use of machines in their programs will be particularly interested
- ✓ **Donors**, who will be able to appreciate the cost effectiveness and efficiencies of using the most appropriate equipment and techniques when considering funding programmes.
- ✓ **Manufacturers**, who will have an exceptional opportunity to demonstrate their products and discuss equipment requirements.
- ✓ The **R&D Community**, who will be able to share their thoughts on the latest research and development initiatives on demining technology.
- ✓ The **T&E Community**, who will be able to demonstrate the value of conducting systematic T&E of demining equipment.

## Main Themes

### Area Reduction

- Use of Demining Machines in Area Reduction/Technical Survey
- Demining Machines for use in Road/Track Clearance
- Use of Demining Machines by the Military in Peacekeeping Operations

**Cost Effectiveness**

- Influence of Machines on Demining Costs
- What Data is required to Effectively Analyze Costs

**Risk Management**

- Assessment of Risk and defining “Acceptable Risk”
- Technical Survey Requirements for application to Risk Management
- Analysis of Risk Factors

**Machine Methods and Use in Combination with other Demining Methods**

- Methods and Technologies that Support Mechanical Demining
- Combinations that Work and Why they Work
- Management Issues for Employment of Machines
- Test and Evaluation of Demining Machines
- Influence of Human Factors/Operator on Performance

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