



National Standards Authority of Ireland
Údarás um Chaighdeáin Náisiúnta na hÉireann

STANDARD RECOMMENDATION

S.R. CWA 15832:2008

ICS 95.020

**HUMANITARIAN MINE ACTION - FOLLOW-ON
PROCESSES AFTER THE USE OF DEMINING
MACHINES**

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CEN

CWA 15832

WORKSHOP

April 2008

AGREEMENT

ICS 95.020

English version

Humanitarian mine action - Follow-on processes after the use of demining machines

This CEN Workshop Agreement has been drafted and approved by a Workshop of representatives of interested parties, the constitution of which is indicated in the foreword of this Workshop Agreement.

The formal process followed by the Workshop in the development of this Workshop Agreement has been endorsed by the National Members of CEN but neither the National Members of CEN nor the CEN Management Centre can be held accountable for the technical content of this CEN Workshop Agreement or possible conflicts with standards or legislation.

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Foreword

This CEN Workshop Agreement has been drafted and approved by a Workshop of representatives of interested parties, the constitution of which was supported by CEN following the public call for participation made on 27 November 2006.

Participants in the process were drawn from the following sectors with interests in humanitarian demining: non governmental organisations, other international organisations, national mine action authorities and manufacturers and users of demining machines. The following organisations have been actively participating in the process: Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), Switzerland. Active contributions have also been received by representatives from ANAMA, CMAC, CTRO, INTERSOS, PNDHD, SWEDEC, UNMACA, UNMAS, Norwegian People's Aid, Idea Group, Cranfield, DOK-ING, MineWolf Systems AG and Scanjack AB.

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The final review/endorsement round for this CWA was started on 2007-12-21 and was successfully closed on 2008-02-21. The final text of this CWA was submitted to CEN for publication on 2008-03-27.

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Comments or suggestions from the users of the CEN Workshop Agreement are welcome and should be addressed to the CEN Management Centre.

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Introduction

Demining machines are essentially used for two functions, ground preparation or ground processing. To operate effectively in either role it is fundamental that the machine must be “fit for purpose”. For example, a vegetation cutter that does not engage the ground/soil cannot effectively be used to process ground if the intent of the operation is to disrupt the soil to a depth of 20 cm.

The concept of “intent” is very important and, before the application of any machine, it must be agreed /decided exactly what is expected/anticipated of the machine in the specific operation, i.e. what is intended to be achieved.

In *ground preparation* operations intent can be relatively straightforward: vegetation cutting and/or clearing, removal of tripwires, loosening of soil, removal of metal contamination, removal of building debris, boulders, rubble, defensive obstacles etc, and the sifting of soil and debris.

However, in *ground processing* the intent can be more complex. For example the demining machines can be used to:

- find mines;
- clear mines; or
- prove there are no mines.

The role against which the machine’s performance is to be measured must be decided early in the planning stages.

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