

**Title: The International Pilot Project for Technology Co-operation evaluation of the performance of metal detectors for humanitarian demining.**

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Abstract

The concept for the International Pilot Project for Technology Cooperation (IPPTC) originated in the United States Department of Defense to help users identify a short-list of detectors that could offer the most appropriate characteristics for various humanitarian demining scenarios.

The project concept was outlined late in 1997. In December 1998 voluntary participants from Canada, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the European Commission teamed with the United States to lay the groundwork for the project. The pilot project took 21 months to complete, with actual testing being conducted in several phases. Laboratory testing took place in the Netherlands and Canada, followed by field-testing in both Cambodia and Croatia.

The aim of the pilot project was to conduct a coordinated, multi-national, technical evaluation of metal detectors suitable for use in humanitarian demining. The project sought to demonstrate, through a "consumer reports" type of evaluation, the mine detection capabilities of commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) metal detectors.

The outcome of the project was targeted to assist organizations in selecting the detector(s) most suitable for their particular environment or unique operational conditions. The pilot project also served as a test vehicle to identify and resolve problems in demining technology cooperation as the lead effort for the International Test and Evaluation Program (ITEP).

The presentation will describe the tests undertaken and the typical indications obtained. The implications of the various tests will be discussed, together with indications of aspects that should be considered for improvement in future test campaigns.

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