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CEN Workshop Agreements (CWA)

The European Committee for Standardization (CEN) is the European standards body that operates in parallel with the International Standards Organization (ISO). In January 2001, CEN created a specific Technical Board (BT), Working Group (BT/WG 126), which reports to the CEN BT. CEN WG 126 has given the strategic direction for creation of a number of open CEN Workshops with participation from interested companies and organisations. The Workshops produce CEN Workshop Agreements (CWA) for mine action with funding from EU.

CWA do not duplicate IMAS but are agreements produced in support of them, attempting to provide guidance to the manufacturers of demining equipment on test and evaluation protocols where such issues have not been addressed in the IMAS.

CWA 14747 (2003): Testing Metal Detectors

Metal detectors are an essential part of manual demining operations. Users may wish to conduct a trial of various detectors to identify which best meets their requirements. This CWA provides guidelines and procedures for testing and evaluating metal detectors. The Agreement is intended for "commercial off-the-shelf" detectors, but many of the tests specified could also be applied to instruments under development.



CWA 15044 (2004): Testing Demining Machines

Demining machines are used in a variety of roles in clearance operations. They are either used to detect, remove or destroy landmines, or to prepare the ground in support of demining operations by reducing or removing obstacles. To evaluate demining machines or simply accredit them, users require standards or guidance. This CWA provides standardized methodology for testing and evaluation of demining machines.



CWA 15464 (2005): Planning and Assessing EOD Competencies

No mine action programme would be effective without an internal EOD capacity. To achieve this capacity, mine action

programmes require tools for planning and assessing EOD competencies. This CWA, by design, covers the conventional munitions disposal part of EOD in mine action which enhances the process of planning and evaluating staff development and capacity building. It improves the Quality Management process by providing a means to assess the training and competency of the staff involved in Mine Clearance and EOD work.



CWA 15756 (2007): Testing PPE

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), issued to provide minimum protection against critical, life-threatening and vision affecting injuries. To confirm whether PPE is capable of achieving a minimum acceptable level of protection, users and manufacturers require a baseline and a clearly defined set of agreed test and evaluation methodologies. This CWA specifies methods for the testing, evaluation, and acceptance of PPE against anti-personnel blast mines.

Note: This CWA has been suspended. For further details, please contact GICHD or UNMAS.



CWA 15832 (2008): Follow-on after Demining Machines

Demining machines are essentially used for two functions-ground preparation and ground processing.

To operate effectively in either role the machine should be fit for purpose. This agreement makes a general statement about follow-on processes after the use of a demining machine in the ground preparation and ground-processing roles.

CWA 15833 (2008): Quality management for mechanical demining

Demining machines are not usually used in isolation, but in support of other assets. Other assets are also used in support of the machines. This CWA considers quality management in humanitarian demining in general as well as in demining machines. It focuses on specific actions for quality assurance (QA) and quality control (QC) in the use of demining machines at hazardous sites.

Information about these CWA and IMAS are available and can be downloaded free of charge from <http://www.mineactionstandards.org> or send an email to imas@gichd.org.



European Committee for Standardization
Comité Européen de Normalisation
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