

® HRDD  
INTERNATIONAL Detection Dog

Minimum standards for  
cadaver detection dogs  
in the context of  
Disaster Relief & Missing Persons Search

Human Remains Detection Dog®  
INTERNATIONAL

on the basis of the International Testing Regulations  
of the IRO and the FCI

HUMAN REMAINS DETECTION DOG®

Human Remains Detection Dog® INTERNATIONAL

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ABSTRACT

## Preamble

Human Remains Detection Dogs® (cadaver detection dogs), which are trained in the civilian sector, are primarily primarily used in the context of civil protection and disaster relief as well as in the search for missing persons, when it can be assumed that the missing person is no longer alive.

Forensic searches are not part of civilian body searches. A search in the area of suspected or criminal offenses may therefore only be carried out at the direct request and order of the executive. In general it should be noted that the police must be called in immediately if a body or parts of a body are found.

The cadaver detection dog must not be younger than 18 months at the time of the first audit and should not be older than five years at the time of the first audit. not be older than five years at the time of the first audit. Repeat audits must be carried out every 24 months.

The dog must always be tested by two auditors. One of the auditors must be independent, i.e. he must not belong to the organization of the test object. Furthermore, a lead auditor must be appointed. This person prepares the audit alone or with the help of the auditors.

In general, two of the three parts of an audit must be completed and passed. Which parts are audited depends on decision of the auditors or the existing site. The candidate is only informed on the day of the audit, which parts will be assessed.

Before the audit, the candidate must state the alert behavior of his dog. Both a natural and a trained as well as a trained alert is permitted. The dog may be confirmed after each successful find. The dog should not contaminate the find. Touching of the find by the dog must be avoided.

Your dog must be used. Both the dog and the dog must be placed in a mixing bowl in which holes have been made. When buried, the parts may be wrapped in a biologically harmless foil, which may only exceed the size of the preparation by one centimeter. The foil may only be wrapped once. Search specimens may also be vaporized or moistened with cadaver odor. or wetted scent tubes or compresses can also be used as search specimens.

The audit must be carried out in daylight. 60 minutes are allowed for each part of the audit. available for each part of the audit. The search begins when the dog is put on. Necessary breaks (e.g. to offer the dog water) are not water) are not included in the audit time.

These minimum standards correspond to the current requirements of the modern rescue dog system in accordance with DIN 13050.

They essentially embody the guidelines of the international testing regulations according to the standards of of the IRO / FCI and with their extended regulations of the INSARAG Guidelines.

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## Basic principles

These quality guidelines have been drawn up and published as minimum standards for civilian body searches in order to assess the ability of the dog handler or the "human-dog team" with regard to operational suitability for civilian body searches. The quality guidelines are intended to demonstrate the ability of the human-dog team to find hidden odor sources in a defined area, in a natural area (forest, meadow, etc.), in a building, a debris field, etc. a building, a debris field or in and around water within a specified period of time.

These quality criteria are intended to demonstrate the human-dog team's ability to search for human remains and recognize their scent. The handler must be able to correctly assess the behavior of his dog. The handler is responsible for formulating his search strategy and providing the auditor with a description of the dog's behavior during the search. The dog should show a recognizable behavioral change when it detects an odor that corresponds to the odor source to be searched. These quality criteria are based on the simulation of an actual search and not on the corresponding team training.

team training. These quality criteria are therefore always tested in an assessment procedure. The member organizations of the "Human Remains Detection Dog INTERNATIONAL" recognize these minimum standards and guarantee compliance with them. The requirements of the member organizations can go beyond these minimum requirements. Local particularities can be taken into account.

Minimum requirements for an operations team

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## PART 1: TERRAIN

The candidate must find one or more prepared locations with the smell of a corpse in an area of approx. 1,000 square meters (forest, meadow, rocky terrain). One to three places with the smell of corpses can be prepared. For this purpose at least 2 hours before the audit, complex preparations in varying degrees of decomposition are to be placed either up to 30 cm deep into the soil or placed in the open. Care must be taken when preparing the site, digging in several places without placing preparations. This prevents the dog from searching for the altered microclimate created by the digging. The team has to find the places where the preparations have been placed, the dog must indicate them.

Note:

In the first audit, at least one scent carrier must be placed and found. In subsequent audits, at least two of three odor carriers must be found to pass the audit. Scent carriers must be found.

Failure is possible.

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## PART 2: BUILDING

In a building with at least two floors (e.g. first floor plus second floor) that is unoccupied (unfinished building or abandoned/uninhabited house), the dog must find one or two places with cadaver odor. For this purpose at least 24 hours before the audit, complex preparations of varying degrees of decomposition must be spread out. The team must find and report these locations.

Note:

In the first audit, at least one odor carrier must be placed, which must be found.

Failure is possible.

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## PART 3: DEBRIS

In a light rubble field with the area of two detached houses, the candidate must find one or more prepared places with the smell of corpses. One to three spots with the smell of corpses may be prepared.

For this purpose, at least 24 hours before the audit, complex preparations in varying degrees of decomposition must be either under pieces of debris or placed openly. The team must find these locations and the dog must indicate them.

Remark:

In the first audit, at least one odor carrier must be placed and found. For further audits, at least two out of three odor carriers must be found to pass the audit. Scent carriers must be found.

Failure is possible.

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## PART 4: WATER

The test specimen must be tested in standing water with an area of 30,000 square meters as well as in flowing water with a comparable area and a flow velocity of 30,000 square meters. Water with a comparable surface area and a flow velocity of 3 - 6 km/h with the surface area of one or more prepared several prepared spots with cadaver odor. One to three spots with cadaver odor can be prepared.

For this purpose, at least 24 hours before the audit, complex preparations in varying degrees of decomposition either in water depths of 3 - 5 meters. The team must find these spots and the dog must indicate them.

Remark:

In the first audit, at least one odor carrier must be placed and found. For further audits, at least two out of three odor carriers must be found to pass the audit. Odor carriers must be found.

Failure is possible.

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## ADDITION TO THE ABOVE PARTS:

Two of the four parts mentioned above must be successfully completed as part of an audit. In any case, the audit is successfully completed if the odorant articles are found as described. One part of the audit must be completed under a background noise corresponding to the reality of a search. This includes, in particular, engine noises, sirens, excavator and helicopter noises, the sounds of hammer drills and demolition torches. During the audit, the noises are measured at an average sound pressure level of 95 dbA, measured at a distance of 5 m from the noise source. The maximum sound pressure level must not exceed 105 dbA.

The dog handler may, at his own discretion, lead his dog either off-leash or on-leash during the audit, provided the welfare and health of the dog is not endangered and there are no safety concerns.

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## ETHICAL PRINCIPLE:

All participants in an audit undertake to comply with the following ethical principle: Behind every mission there are human fates. A person is missing - the uncertainty gnaws at everyone involved and leaves deep scars. The relatives are driven by fear and concern for the missing the missing and beloved person. Often the victims are only found dead. The relatives, the voluntary and honorary helpers, the police and rescue services - all ask themselves the same question: "Did we do everything right?" Respect for the victims and their families prohibits advertising and public relations work. The relatives know what dogs are capable of. The opportunity to help is incentive enough. Public presentation at the expense of people seeking help is prohibited. This does not correspond to the moral concepts of Human Remains Detection Dog INTERNATIONAL.

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