INTERNATIONAL SEARCH AND RESCUE DOG ORGANISATION

International Search and Rescue Dog Organisation

Guideline for the organisation and evaluation IRO Mission Readiness Test Area

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1. Introduction to the Int. IRO MRT Area (MRT–FL)

- Each NRO shall ensure that their rescue dog teams are adequately prepared for the MRT – FL. This shall be achieved through participation at the IRO Module System. In order to participate at the IRO MRT FL, a proof of attendance of an IRO Preparation Module is mandatory, for all teams that do not have a positive MRT result yet. Participation in the Preparation Module is valid for three years and thus does not necessarily have to take place right before the MRT.
- The MRT-FL is based on the work of a rescue dog team at an area search mission.
- The MRT-FL will be executed on a scenario basis and includes searches, veterinary first aid and GPS/Map reading/Orientation/Search Tactics.
- The practical search work is evaluated with a set score sheet (see Annex A). At the MRT-FL within two to four days a minimum of three searches – each 60 minutes long – have to be carried out in area search and path search during day- and nighttime.
- The number of victims to be found shall not be disclosed.
- The number of victims can vary from one worksite to the other but the total number of victims has to be the same for all participants at the MRT-FL. The Department for Deployment defines this number.

1.1 General Information

- The IRO Department for Deployment, in coordination with the IRO Board, is responsible for the MRT-FL and may assign a NRO to carry out the event in close cooperation with the IRO Office. Any NRO may apply to organise an IRO MRT, provided that it disposes of test areas and that the Department for Deployment accepts the application.
- For organising the MRT-FL the hosting NRO receives a financial support from the IRO amounting to the respective sum set by the IRO Executive Board.
- The IRO MRT may host an international observer program. International observers must be registered prior to the MRT and attend the event within the framework of an observer program provided by IRO.
- Gross unsportsmanlike behaviour, aggressive behaviour of the dog or cheating in any way (eg. passing-on information on victim-locations, etc.), can lead to a disqualification by the Senior Classifier. The Senior Classifier will instruct the relevant individual to leave the event immediately.
- In the case of aggressive behaviour of the dog and/or injury of persons and damage of dogs or objects the disqualification can result in the following measures:

  No apparent injury/damage:

  - Warning from the Department for Deployment.

- In case of a repeated offence, it is possible to impose a ban for one year or also a lifetime ban upon request of the Spokesperson via the Executive Board.

Apparent injury/damage:

- The Spokesperson initiates the review for a ban on participation.
- The Executive Board can impose a ban on participation at all IRO events for one year or for a lifetime.

In the case of a ban, the following procedure is necessary (assessment procedure):

- Obtaining a written statement from the dog handler
- Obtaining a written statement from the classifier, worksite manager, persons injured and possible witnesses
- Resolution by the Executive Board on the ban

Notification of the ban will include the dog's data (breed, name, date of birth, chipnumber and/or tattoo) and will be communicated:

- to the dog handler and his/her NRO in writing and via email
- to the Classifier and the IRO NRO, at whose event the incident took place, via email
- in the next issue of the IRO Info

- In any case, the responsible Spokesperson is entitled to impose a preliminary ban for preventive reasons until the assessment procedure is completed.
- A dog and handler are considered a "team" and mission readiness is achieved as a team. Therefore only the same team, with proof of competency can work together under an IRO MRT certification.
- The MRT-FL is based on a scenario of recent events resulting in the need for supra-regional assistance.
- The search task at the MRT-FL is to locate as many survivors as possible in the different areas, which vary in type and difficulty.
- All participants in the MRT-FL receive a full brief by the classifier on each search, on the procedures to be followed and on the dangerous areas. All participants must be reminded that they have a duty to continually carry out a dynamic risk assessment for the duration of the search.
- The team will be allowed a maximum time of 60 minutes for each search depending on the search. This includes 5 minutes for briefing. For the debrief a separate 5 minutes are allocated. These are not part of the search time.
- The task of the dog handler is to guide and direct the dog in order to solve the presented tactical situation within the time provided.
- The dog handler must demonstrate team work with his search dog. He has to read him and must communicate the information he gathered to the Classifiers, after the search.

- At the MRT-FL the dog handler has to demonstrate, that he can act in a tactically appropriate way in the search area.
- The handler retains responsibility for and maintains control over the dog at all times during the assessment.
- In order to allow a uniform and appropriate presentation of IRO, the hosting NRO and of the event itself in the public and the media a separate PR/Media Guideline has been defined an can be found as Appendix C to this Guideline.

1.2 Requirements for the organisation of an Int. IRO MRT Area

- In order to hold an MRT-FL, there must be a minimum of 10 dog handlers fulfilling the requirements for participation. Should the number of 10 participating teams not be reached by the application deadline, the IRO MRT-FL will be cancelled.
- The execution of an MRT-FL can be cancelled due to any unforeseeable reasons.
- A maximum of 14 qualified participants per round may participate due to organisational and infrastructural circumstances.
- The Int. IRO MRT-FL shall be planned by the hosting NRO in such a way as to include a weekend (irrespective of whether it is a two day or four day event). Deviations from this requirement need to be approved by the Department for Deployment. As search work is assessed at day and by night time, a shift work for the helpers will have to be planned, where applicable.

2. Information for participants

2.1 Requirements for participants

- Participants must have passed a RH FL-B test according to IPO-R that was judged by an international IRO or FCI judge. Registrations from IRO NRO members are prioritised.
- With the registration, participants must hand in proof of a First Aid Course (incl. Basic Life Support/CPR) according to an internationally acknowledged standard with the registration. The proof must not be older than 3 years.
- The dog, must be younger than 8 years of age at its first IRO MRT-FL participation.
- Dogs in heat are not allowed to participate at the MRT-FL.
- The dog must have all documentation and vaccinations for international deployments, as determined by the Department for Deployment. This includes at the minimum: pet passport, vaccinations according to the IRO vaccination scheme (leptospirosis, parvovirosis, hepatitis, rabies, distemper)
- In order to participate at the IRO MRT FL, a proof of attendance of an IRO Preparation Module is mandatory, for all teams that do not have a positive MRT result yet. Participation in the Preparation Module is valid for three years and thus does not necessarily have to take place right before the MRT.

- A self-certification is required by either the NRO or the handler themselves, to indicate that they are in good health and have a suitable physical condition to undertake the MRT.
- Personal Protective Equipment(PPE) such as helmet, safety boots, gloves, clothing, etc. are required. For recommendations for personal equipment (PE) and requirements regarding to the PPE please see Appendix B.
- Each participant must have the necessary equipment to ensure accommodation and provisions for the duration of the MRT, if not planned differently by the organiser.
- Participants without sufficient command of the German or English language can register a translator for the MRT. Only those individuals registered as translators are allowed to be present on the actual worksites. A translator can only serve for one participant during the whole process of the MRT.
- Should the IRO request that participants bring helpers from their NRO acting as hiding persons, these individuals are not allowed to participate in the MRT-FL as a rescue dog team.
- Participants have to arrange their accommodation on their own – in case a Base of Operations (BoO) will not be established. Information regarding accommodation and BoO will be announced prior the event.

2.2 Participants at the IRO Reception and Departure Centre / RDC

- The MRT-FL begins with the registration of the participants at the IRO Reception and Departure Centre / RDC.
- The IRO RDC shall be strategically situated. The exact location of the IRO RDC is published in due time.
- An equipment check will be carried out for each participant at the IRO RDC.
- Only participants with complete equipment will be allowed to proceed. Deficient equipment (PPE, PE, provision or accommodation) can lead to disqualification of the participating team. (See Appendix B for PE and PEE)
- An IRO veterinarian has to perform a health check of all participating dogs at the IRO RDC. If a veterinary issue is identified, the veterinarian will inform the Senior Classifier on the outcome of the check. A decision on whether to allow or disqualify the dog team from attending the event is then made based on the severity of the findings. Only dogs, for which complete and valid vaccinations according to the IRO vaccination scheme are proven, may participate in the IRO MRT FL. Should incomplete proofs of vaccinations be detected at the initial veterinary check at the RDC, the team is not permitted to start at the MRT FL. There is no pre-check of the vaccination passes by the IRO Office.

2.3 Schedule for the participants

- A time schedule for the MRT-FL can but must not be provided to the participants by the office. In case no set schedule is disclosed, information on all tasks and search work is announced to the participants in due time.
- Between the first two searches a rest period of min. 60 min. has to be scheduled.

2.4 Veterinary Emergencies

- The organising NRO has to designate a veterinary clinic on site, available for veterinary emergencies during the MRT-FL event. Costs for veterinary care need to be covered on the dog handler.
- Where a dog requires hospitalisation, the Senior Classifier must be notified immediately.
- A detailed accident report is required from the following personnel:
    - Dog handler
    - Classifiers present at the worksite
    - Senior Classifier
    - Other Witnesses

- The reports needs to be sent to the IRO Office, within 14 working days of the incident. The report must contain the following details:
    - Location/time/date
    - Persons and dogs involved
    - Detailed description of incident (photograph evidence if possible)
    - Type of first aid treatment provided

2.5 Departure of the Participants

- All participants are responsible to arrange for the homeward journey.

3. Organisation Team

The organisation Team consists of:

- Senior Classifier
- IRO Office
- On-site Facilitator
- Classifiers
- Organising NRO

In case classifiers' evaluations differ, the Senior Classifier, after taking into consideration all available facts, takes a final decision.

Roles and responsibilities:

3.1 Senior Classifier

- The IRO Spokesperson for the Department for Deployment or one of his Deputies or a person appointed by the Spokesperson shall as Senior Classifier

be the head of the test administration. In cooperation with the IRO Office and the organising NRO, the Senior Classifier is responsible for the overall organisation of the MRT-FL.

- Ensures, in coordination with the IRO office, that all participants meet the requirements for the participation at the MRT-FL.
- Assigns, the search areas and hides, in coordination with the On-site Facilitator.
- Assigns each Classifier to the different search areas and defines the general tactical situation, in coordination with the Department for Deployment.
- Defines the number of hiding places and victims, in coordination with the Department for Deployment and the Worksite Facilitator.
- Decides which distraction in what form are used on which sites.
- May order, if needed, that a demonstration by a mission ready dog is carried out prior to the first search.
- Ensures that the evaluation is done in accordance to the IRO Guidelines.
- Where a dog shows aggression or is found to be physically unfit by the veterinarian on duty, either prior to or during the test, or where a dog exhibits aggression behaviours towards a victim or any other individual, the Senior Classifier is responsible for the decision to disqualify the particular team from the MRT. He decides after deliberation with the other Classifiers.
- Where in a particular case, Classifiers are of divergent opinions, the Senior Classifier acts as an arbitrator and is responsible for the final decision, after hearing both sides.
- The Senior Classifier organises and leads the Classifiers' meetings.
- Reviews all evaluations and takes the final decision in regard to the successful MRT-FL status of each team.
- Provides a standardised written feedback to all participants after the MRT-FL through the IRO Office.

3.2 IRO Office

- Chooses the Classifiers from the official IRO Classifiers list as well as the experts for the additional testing subjects, on instruction of the Department for Deployment. s
- The IRO office prepares the MRT FL invitation for the MRT FL in coordination with the Department for Deployment.
- It receives the registrations to the MRT-FL and establishes the list of participants.
- It enters participants' data into the evaluation system and provides all score sheets and certificates for the test administration.
- It takes care of all administrative tasks.
- Ensures that the list of IRO mission-ready rescue dog teams is updated.

3.3 On-site Facilitator

- The NRO, in coordination with the Department for Deployment appoints the On-site Facilitator.
- Their role is to identify and manage the implementation of:
    - A minimum of 3 worksites
    - Facilities for all additional MRT subjects
    - Facilities for welfare/logistics for the MRT process
- They coordinate the worksite preparations prior to the MRT-FL. In coordination with the Office they can supervise the final preparation of worksites with the organising NRO two to three days prior to the event.
- They are responsible to ensure that all requirements outlined in the guideline are met.
- They determine the location and number of victims in liaison with the Senior Classifier/IRO DfD.
- They prepare all documentation requested by the Department for Deployment in collaboration with the IRO Office.
- They ensure that all hides are exchanged in adequate time.
- They support the Classifiers.

3.4 Victims and hiding places

- The number of victims to be found shall not be disclosed.
- The number of victims may vary from one worksite to the other, however, the total number of victims at the MRT has to be the same for all participants. The number is defined by the IRO Department for Deployment.
- Victims should be in the hiding places for at least 15 minutes before the dog begins its search. The hiding places of the victims can be changed for each team and each search
- All victims will be placed in the hides out of sight of the handler and dog.
- The victims of the day- and night search have to sit or lay on the ground or at max. 2 meters of height (in a tree or similar) or 1 metre depth.
- At the search along a path, victims have to sit or to lay on the ground or at max. 2 meters of height (in a tree or similar) or 1 metre depth and max. 10 meters to the left or right off the path.

3.5 Distraction / Disturbance / Noise

- During the day- and night search at least two different distractions should occur.
- During the path search at least one distraction should be used.

The following distractions may be used:

- Hikers, campers, cyclists, lumberjacks

    - other dogs on leash
    - Open fire, etc.

- The dog is not allowed to let itself be distracted by any difficulties during the search. This also applies to a difficult terrain that imposes a barrier to its forward movement.

3.6 Classifiers

- The Classifier team consists of the following personnel:
    - 1 Senior Classifier
    - 6 Classifiers

- The IRO Classifier list consists of IRO Judges and mission experienced leadership personalities (Team Leader, Dog Group Commander, Exercise Coordinator, USAR-Team member, etc.).
- Based on the suggestion of the Spokesperson for Deployment, the IRO board designates the Classifiers who are not allowed to be members of the organizing NRO or participants themselves.
- Classifiers should be chosen from as many NROs as possible and from the IRO Classifiers and Judges, who are active rescue dog handlers themselves and participated in the MRT in the last 5 years.
- Two Classifiers assess the work of dog teams at each work site. Every Classifier must participate in the Classifier training which takes place directly before the MRT.
- Amongst other criteria, classifiers are selected according to their physical fitness due to the distance that needs to be covered during the MRT-FL (approximately 60 – 70km).
- Each Classifier has to complete a score sheet for each team and each search.
- Scores below 2 points in any category must be accompanied by the Classifier's comment the score sheet in English or German language.
- All Classifiers must attend the Classifiers meetings.
- In order to expand the Classifier pool interested individuals may attend the MRT FL as a Shadow Classifier, upon invitation by the IRO Department of Deployment They are Classifiers in training and shall only attend the MRT-FL as a shadow to the Classifiers. They are not part of the evaluation team. A maximum of two Shadow Classifiers shall be allowed to attend an MRT-FL.

3.7 Organising NRO

- The organising NRO establishes the event schedule in close cooperation with the IRO Office and in accordance with the organisational requirements for an MRT-FL. It is responsible to ensure that the IRO Office receives all necessary information in due time.
- It ensures that the necessary infrastructure is available as per Department for Deployments requirements.

- The organising NRO must announce a veterinary clinic on site, available for veterinary emergencies occurring during the IRO MRT.
- It must provide adequate work sites as well as appropriate resting and meeting areas.
- Each participant brings one hiding person, should this not be sufficient, the NRO would need to provide additional hiding persons.
- It is responsible for providing transportation and all meals for members of the test administration.

4. Testing Area

4.1 General information

- The MRT-FL is carried out in a realistic environment. The participants have to complete mission tasks, within which missing persons have to be found at a minimum of 3 worksites.
- Within 24-36 hours each team needs to carry out the following searches at a minimum:
    - 1x night search
    - 1x day search
    - 1x search path search incl. orientation with a map, compass and GPS
- The search time for the day- and night search is max. 60 min. per search.
- The search area for the day- and night search should be approx. 60.000 m² and should consist of forest-, meadow- or mixed areas, where a minimum of 50 % has to be covered by natural cover without artificial hiding places.
- The search time for the path search is max. 60 min.
- The path to be searched has a maximum length of 3,000 m.
- If the search work is carried out at night time, it has to be done without the use of floodlight. Only headlamps, helmet lamps and hand held torches are allowed.
- All respective work sites shall include a minimum of 10 hiding possibilities.

4.2 Tactical situation

The evaluation system for the search work at the MRT-FL takes into consideration the following criteria:

- Prior to each search assessment, the handler must receive a briefing on the scenario from the Classifiers and must be given the opportunity to ask questions. The handler informs the Classifiers on the dog's alert style to be used by the dog, whether the dog performs a recall/refind or stays at the victim and indicates from that position. Note that this briefing is part of the allocated to the search time.

- During the search assessments the dog must demonstrate that it can consistently locate live casualties and positively indicate those finds in a manner which leaves no doubt in the assessors' minds that a find has been made.
- The handler must show that the alert has been recognised. Where the dog stays with the casualty and indicates by a strong bark alert the handler must make their way to the point indicated by the dog and locate the victim. Where the dog performs a recall/refind and indicates by a strong bark alert or other means, the handler has to follow the dog to the point indicated and locate the victim. In either case, the location of the victim must be reported to the Classifiers at that time.
- The handler needs to demonstrate the practical aspects regarding operational search procedures.

The handler must demonstrate a full understanding of the following:

- Safe working method for a dog rescue team
- Familiarisation with the area (search brief from assessor team)
- Risk assessment of the area and taking the appropriate measures
- Give a search brief to one of the classifiers.
- Preparation of team for search
- Different types of search patterns
- Reporting points of interest or indications to the Classifiers.
- Demonstrate a full body check of their dog for any injuries that may have been sustained during the search
- Give a search de-brief to the Classifiers
- Carry out personal administration to prepare the team for next search

- For the day- and night search the sector which needs to be searched should be given to the participants with GPS coordinates and a general map, together with a general realistic scenario.
- For the search along path, the track which needs to be searched should be given to the participants with GPS coordinates and a general map, together with a realistic scenario. The participants then need to locate the track and search along it, covering the path itself and also max. 10 meters on each side.
- The dog handler may ask questions (in English or German) to the Classifier before deciding on a strategic mission plan. Those who do not speak either of these languages will be permitted to bring a translator.
- The dog handler must share his plan with the Classifiers and then execute the mission plan.
- The time needed to solve the tactical situation is part of the search time.
- An additional 5 minutes can be used after the initial 60 minutes allocated search time for debriefing classifiers of the dog handler's findings.

5. Evaluation

5.1 Evaluation of the search work

The main focus of the evaluation during the MRT –FL is on the harmonic teamwork between dog handler and rescue dog in area search. The success rate within the three search tasks also the evaluation.

- The assessment is done by the Classifiers using a standardised score sheet and a computerised evaluation system. Each individual score sheet from each work site for each team is entered in the evaluation system in order to obtain the final result.
- The victims have to be found within the scheduled time
- In general it is important, that the dog fulfils the task in a calm, independent and constant manner.
- Criteria are teamwork/situational awareness/orientation, observation/reading the dog, eager to work/search drive, agility, independence/controllability as well as the dog´s alert/ indication and behaviour of the dog handler.
- The final evaluation of the MRT-FL is either a "pass" or "not passed". In borderline cases, the Senior Classifier, after deliberating with the Classifiers, decides if the team is granted the status of mission-ready or not.
- In order to pass the MRT-FL the rescue dog team has to find at least 70% of the victims.
- Number of false alerts allowed:

Number of hidden victims	False alerts allowed
08 – 09	1
10 – 12	2

5.2 Evaluation of additional testing subjects

- The subjects First Aid Dog and GPS/Map reading/Orientation/Search Tactics are tested by subject matter experts theoretically and/or practically. The testing subjects may also be tested in a combined exercise.
- The subject matter experts grade the subject to be either 'passed' or 'not passed'. All additional testing subjects must be passed.

5.3 Alert/Indication

The Classifiers must be informed on the dog's indication style before the start of the search assessments.

Due to the variety of different types of searches carried out by Search and Rescue Dog Teams, three types of alerts that are allowed to be used on the assessment:

- The Recall / Refind
- Barking
- Bringsel

- Recall / Refind: During the recall / refind, the dog takes the quickest route back and forth be-tween the handler and the victim thereby leading the handler to the victim or place of alert. In addition, the dog must clearly show the handler the sort of behaviour that can clearly be interpreted as alert behaviour.
- Barking: Whilst barking the dog clearly addresses the victim or the location of his/her scent and barks continuously and in this direction until the Classifier indicates that the alert may stop. The dog must remain within 2 metres of the victim / place of alert until the handler reaches the dog. The dog must not touch the victim. When hiding places are enclosed but accessible to the dog, it should indicate the precise location of the scent source through directive alert behaviour.
- Bringsel: A special collar, on which a "bringsel" is fixed, is fitted on the dog if it is doing bringsel work. The collar has to have a releasing mechanism, which protects the dog from injuries. When it has found the person the dog takes the bringsel to the handler. There is no need for it to sit during the handover of the bringsel. Once the bringsel has been removed, and at the order of the handler, the dog takes the handler directly and independently to the victim. Whilst doing so, the handler must be in constant contact with his dog. The dog may be taken on a leash with any length for this purpose.
- If the dog only shows interest in a specific area, where the situation makes it particularly difficult to get a positive alert, the handler must inform the Classifiers immediately so this can be recorded. Using their own experience both Classifiers must agree that the dog has shown sufficient interest and can be credited with the find.
- At the victim, the dog has to alert independently and without any influence of the handler with the respective alert. Any influence or interference of the handler in regard to the alert, results to an evaluation of 0 points – the victim is evaluated as not found.
- The alerting behaviour must not be induced by the dog handler.
- If the DH induces an alert through excessive verbal encouragement, this is recorded in the score sheet with a respective comment.
- The dog handler has to recognize the alert of the dog and must signalize it to the evaluation team by hand signal and by giving exact GPS coordinates. Every alert has to be reported by the dog handler.
- The dog handler should make contact and communicate with the victim (e.g. concerning the victim's condition, medical needs etc.).

- After the alert has been reported by the dog handler, the dog must stay at the alert area until rewarded or redirected by the handler. This rule does apply to dogs using bringsel and refind alert.
- It is not a mistake for the dog handler to allow their dog to continue to work the area, after the dog begins an alert (change in behaviour), until the dog has located the strongest scent source and then shows a definite alert. This must be acknowledged by the handler reporting the alert to the Classifiers to be recorded.
- As soon as the dog handler has reported the alert to the Classifiers, he may commend and encourage the search dog, as well as strengthen the triggered alert.
- The dog handler may reward the dog at the alert site. However, it is the responsibility of the dog handler to ensure that no food from the reward remains at the alert site.
- All relevant information concerning the find must be reported to the Classifiers.

6. Results

- The final evaluation states "passed" or "not passed". In borderline cases, the Senior Classifier, after deliberating with the Classifiers, will decide if the team passes the MRT-FL.
- Participants with a positive evaluation receive the designation 'Mission Ready' in the form of a certificate and an IRO insignia badge.
- Unsuccessful participants receive a certification of attendance.

6.1 Validity and Reclassification

- The certification "Mission Ready" is valid for two years. Reclassification is only possible after this two-year period. Early reclassification is not renewing the mission readiness and is not replacing the reclassification, which is required after expiration of validity of the certification 'Mission Ready'. Participation in the reclassification by a certified team within these two years is only possible if free slots are available and has no impact on the IRO allocation of funds from sponsor's donations.
- Generally the same rules and regulations apply for the MRT-FL and the reclassification.
- Reclassification events (Module 5) are held as per the Reclassification standards.

7. Reclassification (Module 5)

7.1. General Information

- Generally the same rules and regulations as for the IRO Mission Readiness Test (MRT-FL/Module 4) apply for the reclassification (Module 5). Exceptions and adaptions concerning the preparation and execution of the reclassification are outlined below.
- The reclassification is executed by the NRO, that carries out the subsequent MRT which was assigned by the Department for Deployment to host the MRT-FL. If the number of participants is too low, the dates of the MR and the Reclassification may be combined.

7.2. Requirements for participants

- MRT-FL certified rescue dog teams would need to carry out a reclassification every two years, in order to maintain IRO operational status.
- The NRO has to provide helpers needed as victims during the reclassification. Should it be necessary that participants bring helpers with them; this is announced prior to the event. Helpers from NROs who function as hiding person during the reclassification are not allowed to participate in the MRT-FL as dog handlers.
- Participants have to arrange their accommodation for themselves – in case a Base of Operations (BoO) will not be established. Information in regard to accommodation and BoO are announced prior the event.
- Dogs, which want to participate in the Reclassification have to be younger than 9 years.

7.3. Organisation Team

The Organisation Team consists of:

- Senior Classifier
- IRO Office
- On-site Facilitator
- Classifiers
- Organising NRO

7.4. Testing Area

- In total one day search and one night search are carried out.
- The search area for the day- and night search should be approx. 60.000 m² and should consist of forest-, meadow- or mixed areas where a minimum of 50 % has to be covered by natural cover without artificial hiding places.
- The search time for the path search is max. 60 min.
- The path to be searched has a maximum length of 3,000 m.

- If the search work has to be carried out at night, the search has to be done without the use of floodlight. Only headlamps and hand held torches are allowed.
- All respective work sites shall include a minimum of 10 hides.

7.5. Evaluation of the search work

- One missed victim is allowed on the entire certification event.
- The assessment of the dog teams is done using the same evaluation system as for Module 4 (MRT Area).
- The rescue dog team being classified is allowed a maximum time of 60 minutes for each search, including briefing time. An additional 5 minutes are allowed for a de-briefing on the search findings, if required by the handler.

7.6. Evaluation of additional testing subjects

One out of two additional testing subjects may form part of the reclassification and is prepared by the subject matter expert in collaboration with the Senior Classifier and the IRO Office. This is in the form of either practical or theoretical tests. The tested subject has to be passed successfully.

- First Aid Dog
- GPS/Map reading/Orientation/Search Tactics

7.7. Results

- The final evaluation states, “passed” or “not passed”. In borderline cases, the Senior Classifier, after deliberating with the Classifiers, will decide if the team passes the reclassification.
- Participants with a positive evaluation receive the designation ‘Mission Ready’ in the form of a certificate and an IRO insignia badge.

7.8. Validity and Reclassification

- The certification ‘Mission Ready' that has been obtained through participation in the reclassification is valid for two years. Further reclassification is only possible after the two-year period.
- The Department for Deployment together with the IRO Office has the authority to extend the certification of individual teams for a further 6 months, to allow for flexibility in setting/organising reclassification dates.
- Early reclassification does not allow renewing of the mission readiness status and does not replace the reclassification which is required after 2 years. Participation in the reclassification by a certified team within these two years is only possible if free slots are available and has impact on the IRO allocation of funds from sponsor’s donations.
- A resit of the reclassification is allowed once and has to be taken within a 12 months period.
- Any team not passing the reclassification is removed from the IRO operational register until a successful reclassification or full MRT is achieved.

- Reclassification events (Module 5) are held as per the reclassification standards.

8. Acceptance of an Int. IRO NRO MRT Area

- The execution of an MRT-FL, that is carried out independently by the NRO in regard to administrative and financial aspects, is basically possible in agreement with the Department for Deployment depending on the respective framework conditions.

- Application for the execution of a IRO NRO MRT-FL is to be made to the Department for Deployment through the IRO Office until 30.06. of the previous year at the latest.

- The IRO NRO MRT has to conform to the IRO Guidelines for the IRO MRT (Module 4). Should the regulations of the IRO Guidelines for the MRT not be followed, it is not accepted as an MRT-FL in regard to mission readiness certification and distribution of IRO sponsor money.

APPENDIX A – Score Sheet Mission Readiness Test Area

IRO MRT-FL Evaluation Sheet

Name Classifier:		Worksite & Date:	
Name Dog Handler:		Start number:	
Name Dog:		Chip No.:	

Start- / Endtime		Classifier's personal opinion:	o passed o not passed
Number of figurants at the worksite:			
Number of figurants found:		Overall score:	

General Evaluation		
DH/Dog	Evaluation Criteria	Remarks to criteria 1-5: If score is 2 or below comment is obligatory!
	1. Teamwork / Situational Awareness / Orientation	
	2. Observation / Reading the dog	
	3. Eager to work / Search drive	
	4. Agility	
	5. Independence / Controllability	
	TOTAL GENERAL	

Evaluation Alerts			
DH	Dog	Figurant	Remarks to criteria 1-4: If score is 2 or below comment is obligatory!
		1	
		2	
		3	
		4	
		TOTAL ALERTS	

	Number of false alerts

IRO MRT-FL Evaluation Sheet

Classifier Feedback

	Positive	Negative
Dog handler		
Dog		
Further Comments		

IRO MRT-T Evaluation Key

General Evaluation		
Teamwork / Situational awareness / Orientation	4	exceptional teamwork (incl. considering the dog's wellbeing and safety), tactical situation is perfectly understood and executed, has good orientation in the search area
	3	good teamwork (dog's wellbeing and safety are still considered), tactical situation is understood and partly executed, knows the borders of the search area, mostly knows his own location
	2	teamwork still visible (consideration of dog's wellbeing and safety is insufficient); tactical situation is not executed, does not have a general overview of the search area
	1	Teamwork (especially safety and wellbeing of the dog) is hardly visible, DH and/or dog leave the search area several times, DH does not know where dog is
	0	Teamwork (especially safety and wellbeing of the dog) is not visible, does not have an overview over the area, team is not in the search area
Observation / Reading the dog	4	very good; has an overview at all times; can read the dog very well; knows what has been searched
	3	good; mostly has an overview; partly can read the dog well; knows more or less what has been searched
	2	partly loses the overview, but can still read the dog; only partly knows what has been searched
	1	loses the overview; can hardly read the dog; does not know what has been searched
	0	no overview; cannot read the dog; does not know what has been searched
Eager to work/ Search drive	4	very good search behaviour; spirited; very motivated; very eager to work
	3	good search behaviour; mostly motivated; mostly eager to work; stamina decreases a bit
	2	satisfactory search behaviour; partly motivated; partly eager to work; stands; asks; stamina visibly decreases
	1	hardly any search behaviour; motivation is lacking; hardly eager to work; stands a lot; asks a lot; insufficient stamina
	0	no search behaviour; no motivation; not eager to work; no stamina
Agility	4	is very agile; very good mobility in terrain ; does not avoid difficulties
	3	is agile; good mobility in terrain; only very rarely avoid difficulties
	2	is partly agile; partly shows deficits in mobility in terrain; partly avoids difficulties
	1	is hardly agile; has great deficits in mobility in terrain; avoids almost all difficulties
	0	is not agile; avoids certain areas; avoids all difficulties
Independence / Controllability	4	is very independent; works mostly on its own drive; lets itself be handled very well (if needed)
	3	is independent; needs to be prompted to continue work every now and then; lets itself be handled well
	2	independence still visible; frequently needs to be prompted to continue work; still lets itself be handled
	1	independence is mostly lacking; always needs to be prompted to continue work; hardly lets itself be handled
	0	independence is lacking; does not do anything on its own drive; does not let itself be handled

IRO MRT-T Evaluation Key

Evaluation Alerts		
Dog handler	**4**	supports the dog in a goal-oriented manner and where needed; can show the location of the victim exactly and gives information to the classifiers
Dog		works out the alert independently; dog starts the alert independently and carries out the alert until the end without any deficit; stays at work in a concentrated manner
Dog handler	**3**	mostly supports the dog in a goal-oriented manner; can show the location of the victim and gives information to the classifiers
Dog		basically works out the alert independently; starts the alert independently and keeps the alerting behaviour rather constantly until the end ; stays at work in a more or less concentrated manner
Dog handler	**2**	Limitations in the areas of support and observation; cannot sufficiently show the location of the victim; disturbs the dog's alert
Dog		does not stay at work; needs a lot of support; shows the location of the victim only very vaguely; repeatedly interrupts the alerting behaviour
Dog handler	**1**	DH misses an alert at first but then indicates interest of its dog in a certain area later (at debriefing at latest)
Dog		does not work without support; altering behaviour barely visible; elaboration on the scent barely visible
Dog handler	**0**	hinders the dog from working; prevents an alter; does not report an alert
Dog		dog does not work; dog does not find

APPENDIX B - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – Personal Equipment (PE)

Required standard

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Helmet (EN 397: 2013 / EN 12492: 2012)

All helmets generally used for climbing or in USAR environments that meet the mentioned or equivalent standard are accepted.

- Safety Boots (EN 345 / EN ISO 20345:2004 / EN ISO 20345:2007 / EN ISO 20345:2011)

All boots generally used for mountain tracking (ankle high) or in USAR environments that meet the mentioned or equivalent standard are accepted.

- Gloves

Handlers should wear gloves during area search to protect hands in case of a fall or knock against sharp objects.

- Clothing (EN 471:2003 A1:2007 / EN ISO 20471:2013 (coding for reflective strips)

Handlers should preferably wear an overall that can be removed if it becomes contaminated, it should provide protection against abrasion and preferably be of a high visibility with reflective strips (that meet the mentioned or equivalent standard) for use at night. Long sleeves should always be worn during area search.

Recommended standard

Personal Equipment (PE)

- Documentation handler/dog (waterproof)
- Warm/Waterproof coat/trousers (handler)
- Warm/Waterproof jacket (dog
- Hand torch (spare batteries)

equipment
Dog food (dog)
- Muzzle

(dog/handler)
- Lead
- Waste/faeces Bags
- Notebook, pen/pencil
- personal documents
- Small First Aid Kit (dog/handler)
- GPS/compass, mapping
- 24hr Ration Pack (handler) -

- Bottled water, min. 2L
- Working harness/identification

APPENDIX C – Public Relation and Commercialisation

The rules of action below have been defined to allow a uniform presentation of the IRO, the hosting NRO and of the event itself in the public and the media.

- IRO Logo

The IRO Logo is provided as word/picture mark in the according file formats for the use within the framework of major IRO events. The files have to be used in the form provided and may not be altered or used for other purposes.

- Utilisation

The use of the IRO logo has generally to be agreed with the IRO and copies of publications where the IRO logo has been used have to be sent to the IRO Office.
The IRO logo has to be placed in a way so that the event can clearly be noticed as IRO event. For this the IRO logo can either be used as stand-alone logo, in combination with the logo of the hosting NRO or with a logo specially designed for the event. If the IRO logo is being used in combination with another logo then the IRO logo – in the same size as the event-/NRO logo – has always to be placed as first logo to the left.

- Area of application

The IRO logo has to be used according to the currently valid Guidelines for the respective IRO event (e.g. invitation, catalogue, start numbers, etc.). In any case the IRO logo has to be placed several times and clearly visible at the central event venue (e.g. stadium). Further the IRO logo should be preferably placed in all other areas of the event as well.

- Communication channels

In order to guarantee a consistent and effective communication the communication means provided by IRO (e.g. specific event websites) as well as the media such as the official IRO Social Media platforms, circular letters and Newsletter have to be used. The implementation and use of additional or complementary communication channels is only possible in accordance with the IRO Office.

- Photo- and video material

Basically the compilation of picture- and video material during the event has to be ensured by the hosting NRO. As possible the picture- and video material has to be provided to IRO for royalty free use within the activities as worldwide umbrella organisation. If this is not possible IRO will arrange the clarification of rights of use directly with the originator.

- Commercial rights of use

Any commercial rights of use (e.g. TV, Online broadcast, etc.) for the event lie with the IRO. The realisation of commercial offers in connection with a major IRO event through the NRO as local host has to be agreed with IRO.
The right for the sales of products and articles (e.g. textiles, means of promotion, etc.) which have been branded with the IRO logo (word/picture mark) lies exclusively with the IRO.