Recommendation REC L 0006 of the Commission Avalanche Rescue
of October 14, 2006

Regarding official test period for new search systems in the field

The Commission for Avalanche Rescue of the International Commission for Alpine Rescue has adopted the following recommendation:

ICAR-CISA-IKAR recommends to manufacturers not to involve official rescue teams or other institutions for testing new search systems before the following requirements are satisfied:

“PROTOTYPE Start - guidelines for new search systems for the search of avalanche victims buried without transponder or transceiver” (test period for new search systems in the field)

- Weight: less than 12 kg (later in use less than 6 kg)
- Size: backpack-compatible
- Independent operating time: 5 hours (at minus 20° C)
- Usable from helicopter and/or terrestrial: Speed: 100 m³/min
- Snow density from: 100 kg/m³ until 600 kg/m³
- Snow humidity from dry to wet snow: 0 % to 4% free water
- Air temperature from: plus 25° C to minus 30° C
- Air humidity from: 0 % to 100 %
- Dust- and waterproof in conformance with: IP65
- Minimum range in air and in snow cover: 20 m
- People alive and deceased: plus 37° C to minus 10° C
- Different signals for e.g. stones, rock, wood and for bodies
- At least one measurement per second
- At least 1 visual or acoustic result/signal available per second
- No radiation dangerous to buried victims, rescuers and search team
- Handling without (electronic) engineering knowledge
- Handling with (winter-)gloves must be possible
- Screen readable in sunshine
- Compatible with the applicable European Standards.

Agreed upon in Kranjska Gora, Slovenia on October 14, 2006.

The Commission for Avalanche Rescue of ICAR:

The President
Hans-Jürg Etter