International Commission for Alpine Rescue ICAR
Terrestrial Rescue Commission

Meeting of the ICAR Terrestrial Rescue Commission
of October 9, 2008 in Chamonix (F)

Cantonal Valais Rescue Organization - Jean-Pierre Délarzes
Presentation of the integration of the Valais rescue organizations into the emergency response service in Valais.
File : 01-Valais-Deslarzes.pdf

Question	Answer	Responsible
How are the rescuers notified in case of a disaster?	- There are several employees. - For the others we have pagers and other notifying systems which work very well. We can contact our people on relatively short notice. Our region is not that big but the valleys can be up to 40 km away from the towns.	

Wildfire Stagor - www.bergrettung-drautal.at   Josef Brandner
The disaster operation lasted 15 days. On a positive note was the radio communication with our devices?. We noticed though that the equipment of a mountain rescuer is not always optimal for firefighting operations.
File: 02-OEBRD-Waldbrand-Stagor.pdf

Question	Answer	Responsible
We have experience with multiple helicopters at the same time in a zone. One helicopter dumped water on the other. How did you solve that problem?	The military organized that there was no flying during the night.	
How does it work with different languages when the rescuers do not speak the same language?	At the Stagor we did not have any problems with that. Should that happen though, then it will be solved individually.	

ACR Electronics M. Perrier – Lighting and Locating of Persons
The technology is constantly developing. We have to think about the systems and equipment from tomorrow and the day after tomorrow to stay up-to-date.
This device is the latest means to notify search and rescue service. The PLB uses satellites for communication. The mode of operation should be well-known to all rescue services.
File: 03-ACR-PLB.pdf

Question	Answer	Responsible
In order to activate the device, one has to push. How does it work when the patient is unconscious?	We have not yet developed this function. We tried it with functions like a crash transmitter but sometimes the system activated itself without the people needing help. We have not gotten any further. At this time the person has to push the alarm button in order to activate the device.	
Is there a receipt for the person activating the alarm?	We have not been able to develop that yet. Also because of political circumstances is that not possible at this time.	
How many people have one of these devices?	About a total of 400'000 but most of them in seafaring and aviation.	
Functional duration?	The device works up to 5 years and between -30 degrees Celcius and +30 degrees Celcius. They are shock and vibration resistant.	
How can you rescue people you cannot see (i.e. in the water)?	The locating takes place via GPS coordinates. The antenna has to be above water, but the problem of an obstructed view is always there (hills, grass, etc.), but the GPS locating is very efficient.	

Hans-Martin Henny, Rafting Accident in the Swiss Army

He reports about a rafting accident that happened in the Swiss Army.

Important points: The equipment and the rescue techniques are very different in the water and it is very, very difficult to find someone in the water.

File: 04-Henny-Raftunfall.pdf

Training in Kyrgyzstan– Milan Sekelksy

Milan Sekelsky reports about training activities of the Slovakian Mountain Rescue in Kyrgyzstan.

It is not always easy because there is little money and the ability of each to work is very different.

File: 05-Kirgisistan.pdf

Accident Tornado in Lauterbrunnen – Andres Bardill

This is about an accident with a fighter jet in Switzerland. The coordination in regard to logistics, operation, and means worked well. It is to be noted though that in such a case the evidence for the cause of the accident always has to be collected. That is not always easy. In addition, one had to pay attention to poisonous gases. One did not always know what was in the wreck

File: 06-Tornado-Lauterbrunnen.pdf

USA – Disasters and Rescue - Dan Hourihan

The mountain rescuers of the MRA are also integrated in different disaster scenarios

File: 07-MRA-Disaster-Response.pdf

Question	Answer	Responsible
Who made the coordinates with the helicopter?	The US Air Force coordinated that. By law, the responsibility is regulated by the federal government, especially when there are that many people involved.	

Personal Equipment and Helmet – Peter Veider
Dynafit together with the mountain rescue has developed a new helmet. It has passed norm testing for mountain climbing, skiing, bicycling, and sledding. In addition, a Recco is integrated in the helmet.
www.bergrettung.at
A tie-in loop with integrated shock absorber was developed together with Millet

Files:
08-OEBRD-Multifunktionshelm.pdf
09-OEBRD-Anseilschlinge.pdf

Bavarian Mountain Rescue in Disaster Operation - Otto Möslang – Mountain Rescue Bavaria
Overview of several disasters in which the Bavarian Mountain Rescue was integrated.
One notices that often there is a barrier between the laws and the problems in the actual disaster operations.
File: 10-BWB-Katastropheneinsatz.pdf

V.axess - Petzl
Presentation of the philosophy of Petzl: To develop a product out of necessity.

File: 11-V5-Petzl.pdf

Harness System of the Mountain Rescue Bavaria
Otto Möslang presents a harness system including tie-in loops for the Bavarian Mountain Rescue. This is used in terrestrial rescue and air rescue as well.
File: 12-BWB-Gurtsystem.pdf

Spanish Organization : own system

The Spanish police have their own search system for search operations. They regularly take measurements of the area with GPS.

Presentation of their research system for the Catalonian – Demonstration

Question	Answer	Responsible
How can you keep the data up-to-date?	*We are often on the spot and take regular measurements.*	

Markus Eck – PIEPS News
Markus Eck presents the system of the Pieps probe and explains its benefits. In different tests an improvement in the rescuing time was achieved by using this probe.