

## CALL FOR PAPERS

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*The Journal* invites government bodies, nongovernment organizations, military personnel, researchers, academics and industry experts to contribute their articles or case studies. We are actively looking for theoretical and practice-based contributions.



*Explosives used in a planned demolition as part of the UN Mine Action Service's demining operations.  
Photo courtesy of UN Photo/Abel Kavanagh.*

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## EDITORIAL

### How Should We Assess New Technology?

In research and development, the challenge to secure new funding compounds the pressure of finding the next breakthrough technology in a manner that may inadvertently conflict with the development of technologies that field operators actually need. With limited funding and frequently delayed or ambiguous communication between researchers at home and practitioners in the field, are incremental improvements in equipment more practical than the development of entirely new technologies? Is it possible to work more efficiently with current procedures without loss of quality or safety? How do we encourage greater honesty and transparency in order to objectively assess new technologies and methodologies? What test and use parameters should we use to assess counter-improvised explosive device (C-IED) equipment? What pitfalls have past assessment standards suffered from and how can we overcome these issues?

### The Explosive Legacy in Southeast Asia: Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam

Multiple civil wars as well as the Indochina Wars caused extensive landmine and cluster munition contamination in Southeast Asia. With some of the densest minefields and highest concentrations of unexploded ordnance, what progress have organizations made in the region? How do operators approach the problems of remote access to many of the contaminated areas in these countries? With such extensive contamination, how do authorities prioritize which areas receive clearance efforts and how is the legacy problem hindering humanitarian relief and development across the region? Discussion of regional case studies is encouraged.

### Underwater Demining

The task of surveying and clearing territorial and inland waters presents new challenges and concerns for explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) operators. Understanding the characteristics of explosives and chemical reactions in underwater environments involves extensive training. Which elements of socio-economic impact are considered before determining clearance is necessary? What types of sensor technology exist for underwater survey, and how is this technology deployed? In what circumstances are various methods of disposal practiced, and how is the risk assessed? Where is underwater demining capacity needed most, and how can national mine action authorities become certified to conduct underwater operations?

### Monitoring and Evaluation

How does your organization measure the impact of programs? What tools are used to assess progress, ensure best practice, lessons learned, sustainable benefits, and any remaining work to be done? How and through what means (survey, local meetings, field assessments, etc.) do you collect reliable data that provides a true reflection of the impact/success of programs? Submissions reflecting monitoring and evaluation of specific programs are encouraged.

### Demining Training Aids

The onset of virtual reality and 3D printing has created new and exciting opportunities in training solutions for a variety of fields. What kind of applications does virtual reality have for explosive ordnance disposal? In what ways has 3D printing benefited demining training purposes?

### Research and Development

*The Journal of Conventional Weapons Destruction* seeks research and development (R&D) articles. All technical articles on **current equipment, technology, trends, and developments** in the field of mine action and CWD will be considered. Commercial companies, NGO's, and researchers are encouraged to submit. R&D articles are submitted to three experts for anonymous peer review. Two of the three reviewers must approve the article for publication. Reviewers approve articles for publication, suggest revisions or reject articles for publication.