



K9 Quality Partners

Building a Global Network of Verified Working Dog Partners

Operational experience - Scientific research - shared industry knowledge

Damir Car – Canis Revolution/ISAPA

Mine detection dogs save lives !

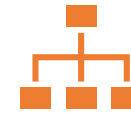
But only if operational reliability depends on:

- correct selection
 - structured training
 - independent assessment
 - continuous assessment
-





What we see today...



Many experienced trainers and organisations but fragmented methodologies and evaluation systems.



Limited comparable performance data between programs and operational environments.

Why Good Detection Dogs Fail

Operational experience shows that failure is rarely caused by a single factor.

Most failures occur due to a combination of:

- incorrect genetic selection
- insufficient behavioural evaluation
- inconsistent training methodology
- mismatch between training environment and operational conditions
- late identification of unsuitable candidates

Early behavioural testing significantly improves success rates.



WHAT HAPPENS IN DETECTION TRAINING PROGRAMS?



TIME



MONEY

- Candidate dogs entering programs: 100%
- After behavioural selection: 70%
- After training phase: 50%
- Operationally reliable dogs: 25–30%
- High failure rates significantly increase the cost and time required to prepare operational detection dogs.

Value of existing knowledge



**THE K9 INDUSTRY ALREADY POSSESSES
VALUABLE KNOWLEDGE**



- DECADES OF OPERATIONAL EXPERIENCE
- SUCCESSFUL TRAINING PROGRAMS
- VALUABLE LESSONS LEARNED IN THE FIELD.



HOWEVER, MUCH OF THIS KNOWLEDGE
REMAINS ISOLATED RATHER THAN
STRUCTURED AND SHARED.



Scientific foundations

South Africa – Slabbert research

- behavioural development of working dogs
- early prediction of working ability
- influence of breeding and early environment

Sweden – Dog Mentality Test Protocol

- structured behavioural testing (MH / L-test)
- evaluation of temperament traits
- prediction of working suitability

These research models influenced modern working dog evaluation systems.

Croatian Dog Mentality Test Protocol (CDMTP)

DEVELOPED THROUGH COOPERATION WITH MULTIPLE INTERNATIONAL WORKING DOG ORGANISATIONS.

SWEDISH DOG MENTALITY TEST PROTOCOL (MH / L-TEST)

- INTERNATIONAL WORKING DOG EVALUATION METHODS
- OPERATIONAL EXPERIENCE FROM DETECTION DOG PROGRAMS

- STRUCTURED BEHAVIOURAL EVALUATION
- IDENTIFICATION OF HIGH-POTENTIAL CANDIDATES
- SUPPORT FOR SELECTION OF DOGS SUITABLE FOR PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

MENTAL TEST PROTOCOL					
Organizer:	Place:		Date:		Chip-number:
Registration number:	Dog name:				
SOCIAL	1	2	3	4	5
Social self-confidence/security	<input type="checkbox"/> Anxious, high level social insecurity, impossible to handle	<input type="checkbox"/> Social insecurity several situations	<input type="checkbox"/> Socially uncomfortable several situations or socially insecure one situation	<input type="checkbox"/> Socially uncomfortable in single situation, low level	<input type="checkbox"/> Shows social self-confidence all the time
Social curiosity	<input type="checkbox"/> Using aggression	<input type="checkbox"/> Dodging, avoiding	<input type="checkbox"/> Neutral, accepting situation, no response	<input type="checkbox"/> Interested, responding contact from flouant	<input type="checkbox"/> Excessively curious and intense
FIGHT/PLAY DRIVE	1	2	3	4	5
Hunt & chase	<input type="checkbox"/> No chasing	<input type="checkbox"/> Starting, but does not fulfil complete	<input type="checkbox"/> Slower start, looks wary and fulfils up to prey or has quick start with focus on prey but	<input type="checkbox"/> Quick start, focused on prey, stops at prey and grab	<input type="checkbox"/> Quick start, high speed, passes the prey (can return), running is first prio
Catch/grab	<input type="checkbox"/> No grab/no interest	<input type="checkbox"/> No grab, but shows interest and sniffs the prey	<input type="checkbox"/> Grabs with caution or with delay in time (grab within 5 seconds for this square)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grabs direct and drop prey immediate	<input type="checkbox"/> Grabs prey direct and holds it for at least 3 seconds
Prey interest	<input type="checkbox"/> No interest	<input type="checkbox"/> Low or short interest	<input type="checkbox"/> Interested	<input type="checkbox"/> High level, balanced, prey is important	<input type="checkbox"/> Very high and/or disturbing interest
Fight, compete, pull	<input type="checkbox"/> Does not grab	<input type="checkbox"/> Grabs with caution, can lose grip several times, no pulling	<input type="checkbox"/> Grabs, some pulling, can lose grip once with direct new grab, reduced under	<input type="checkbox"/> Grabs direct, puts all the time also on passive figurant, good under pressure	<input type="checkbox"/> Grabs direct, heavy pulling and/or shaking, no reduction under pressure.
Invitations for more fight (towards passive test leader)	<input type="checkbox"/> Shows no or very brief interest in the prey	<input type="checkbox"/> Plays on its own with the prey	<input type="checkbox"/> Shows distinct interest toward's passive test leader, but do no invitation at. "try to	<input type="checkbox"/> Single invitation towards passive test leader	<input type="checkbox"/> Repeated invitation's towards passive test leader
Endurance (delete prey)	<input type="checkbox"/> No start, no try	<input type="checkbox"/> Works less than 30 seconds	<input type="checkbox"/> Works between 30 - 59 seconds	<input type="checkbox"/> Works between 60 - 89 seconds	<input type="checkbox"/> Works 90+ seconds
Search drive (when no prey)	<input type="checkbox"/> No start, no try	<input type="checkbox"/> Works less than 30 seconds	<input type="checkbox"/> Works between 30 - 59 seconds	<input type="checkbox"/> Works between 60 - 89 seconds	<input type="checkbox"/> Works 90+ seconds
SHARPNESS	1	2	3	4	5
Sharpness (how angry)	<input type="checkbox"/> Shows no or very small aggression	<input type="checkbox"/> Shows small aggression	<input type="checkbox"/> Shows a moderate aggression	<input type="checkbox"/> Shows a huge aggression	<input type="checkbox"/> Remaining aggression (after recovery/w.o.)
DEFENCE DRIVE	1	2	3	4	5
Distance creating behaviours (relative or behind handler)	<input type="checkbox"/> Shows no or very small defence drive: alternately escapes	<input type="checkbox"/> Active by handler's side or behind	<input type="checkbox"/> Active and mainly in front of handler	<input type="checkbox"/> Attack (-s) when there are reasons	<input type="checkbox"/> Too frequent or unwanted attacks
Level of balance	<input type="checkbox"/> Passive (have not shown aggression)	<input type="checkbox"/> Unbalanced	<input type="checkbox"/> Slightly unbalanced	<input type="checkbox"/> Balanced	<input type="checkbox"/> Very balanced

OUR PERSPECTIVE OF RELIABLE NETWORK



30+years with MDD



300+ tested dog teams



Experience from testing and
operational environments



Long-term observation of
success and failure patterns in
detection dog preparation.

K9 QUALITY NETWORK

This initiative builds on the **extensive experience of countries and organisations with decades of operational work in mine action.**

With more than **30 years of experience in humanitarian demining**, Croatia has developed valuable operational knowledge in the use of detection dogs.

The Verified Quality Partner Network connects **licensed professionals, trainers and organisations** working in the field of specialised working dogs.

The purpose of this network is to support:

- countries developing detection dog programs
- donors investing in mine action operations
- organisations working with specialised working dogs

Providing **reliable information about dogs, trainers and organisations involved in detection dog preparation.**

Our goal is to help partners make **informed and responsible decisions** when selecting working dogs and training programs.

Behind every safe field stands a **dog** and a **handler** whose reliability must never be questioned.

Ensuring the highest quality in working dog programs is a **shared responsibility** of the entire industry.



**TRUST IN EVERY
STEP**



**MINE DETECTION
DOGS SAVE LIVES**