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To whom it may concern

9 August 2018

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DYNASAFE BACTEC LIMITED'S EXPERIENCE OF THE ARMTRAC 400 AND THE ARMTRAC 75

Dynasafe BACTEC Limited (DBL) has, in the past 5 years, operated several demining machines manufactured by Armtrac. In the Falkland Islands DBL operates a remote control 75T. In southern Iraq DBL operated a 75T and 400. DBL ensures that personnel nominated to operate the machines have a thorough understanding of each machine's characteristics and maintenance requirements before taking control.

DBL's method of use of each machine depends on the clearance requirement and the operating environment:

- **Falkland Islands.** Minefields in the Falkland Islands are mixed AT and AP. They were in peat bogs, hard ground, sand beaches and rock fields. During the technical survey the machine was used to breach into the minefield to allow a deminer to find the mineline. Once clearance began, the machine was used to clear access lanes parallel to the minelines so that a deminer could manually clear the mines.
- **Southern Iraq.** High density mixed minefields were cleared using a 75T and a 400. The machines were used to clear ground by processing large areas of the desert. Where minelines had been identified the machines ran down the line, destroying mines as they advanced.

The operational capability of the machines was impressive. Once the operators had spent time tuning the machine to the operating environment cut depths were consistently 200mm-300mm. The mechanical processing of the soil was homogenous and accreditation standards were easily achieved. Particular points:

- **Falkland Islands.** The machine was not deliberately used to destroy mines and detonations were infrequent; there was no significant damage to the machine. The machine was able to be used in all environments.
- **Southern Iraq.** The machines in Iraq were subjected to daily detonations of AP and AT mines. At no time were the operators' safety compromised. The machines sustained damage to tillers, screens and hydraulic hoses.

DBL ensured that the machines were supported by experienced machine fitters; this was essential to maintain constant operational capability. If the correct maintenance regime is implemented the machines are reliable.

Throughout the clearance programs Armtrac provided a robust level of support that reacted quickly to our demands. Spare parts were quickly sourced and dispatched to our sites and, when required, specialist personnel deployed to train our staff.



DBL has no hesitation in recommending the Armtrac 75T and 400 for demining operations.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'B. Smith', with a stylized flourish at the end.

B Smith
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