

Reference for MAGOR NGO Association for Disaster Response

Type of exercise: INSARAG External Reclassification Exercise
Participant teams: Hungarian National Organization for Rescue Services (HUNOR)
Heavy Urban Search and Rescue Team
HUSZAR Medium Urban Search and Rescue Team
Exercise Control: MAGOR NGO Association for Disaster Response
Venue: Hajdúszoboszló, Hungary
Date: 15-19 May 2017

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Citation from the IER Report for HUNOR Heavy USAR team:

Exercise Control

The IER Team concluded that the Exercise Control (EXCON) group for the HUNOR IER did a masterful job in designing, developing and implementing the Exercise Plan. Prior to the IER, a great amount of time was spent improving the HUNOR training grounds, with many challenging props added to its features. During the IER, it seemed that EXCON was everywhere all the time. This made work for the IER Team simpler since there was always an EXCON member at the worksites as well as the office.

Regarding EXCON, the IER Team observed two Best Practices, which hopefully will be incorporated into all future IECs and IERs.

IER Team Notification System: since the INSARAG Classification system began, it has always been difficult to ensure that classifiers are in the right place at the right time to observe critical tasks. For this IER, the EXCON created a simple SMS system which was used to alert the IER Team of "what was next" in the scenario. This proved invaluable to the IER Team.

Remote Live-Streaming of Meetings: For this IER, the EXCON arranged a separate shelter that housed a video monitor; it then had a camera in all coordination meetings. This allowed the IER Team to view the actions being done "live", without placing additional pressure on HUNOR staff and other role players. It also allowed the IER Team to discuss observations as actions occurred to be certain we all saw the same thing. This too proved invaluable to the IER Team, and it suggests this be done for all future IECs and IERs.

Citation from the IER report of HUSZÁR Medium USAR team:

The classification team would like to recognise the efforts and hospitality of the Excon Team, in particular Kinga Perge for their efforts throughout the whole of the IER. The Excon is the heart beat of all training and exercising, they must plan but also must be able to react. Several times the Excon had to react and adjust, this promoted a successful exercise.