

Press Release

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Brot für die Welt
Christoffel Blindenmission
Deutsche Kommission Justitia et Pax
Deutsche Welthungerhilfe
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Misereor
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Solidaritätsdienst International (SODI)
terre des hommes
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Czech arms producer suspected of violating the Ottawa Convention

*Supported by the European Union
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At the IDET weapons exhibition in Brno/Czech Republic (28.-30.4.03), the Czech arms producer Policske Strojirny had on offer a victim activated, tripwire fuzed "Anti-Transport Mine", which is in contravention of the Ottawa Convention banning anti personnel mines. The Czech Republic ratified the Convention in October 1999.

The Czech mine was displayed in a clear victim activated, anti personnel mode, equipped with a tripwire and a sensor contact cable fuzing system (view foto). The mine was also previously known under the name "Horizont" or "PD-Mi-PK", and was already offered at the IDET exhibition in 2001. The mine is currently in production and is in service with the Czech Republic Army.

The back of the mine is flat sheet metal, but the front is slightly convex and has 5 circular steel plates (Misznay Schardin warhead) which become the explosively formed projectiles on actuation. On detonation the mine will normally cause catastrophic damage to a vehicle as well as propelling secondary fragmentation out to a radius of 150 to 225 meters. The actual plate, fragment or slug can have a hazardous range over 1Km.



(Foto: German Initiative to Ban Landmines)

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