
June 2017

FOERSTER 8th International Workshop Mine and Ordnance Detection

Participants from all over the world learned about the latest developments in metal detection

For the eighth time, FOERSTER hosted the International Workshop on Mine and Ordnance Detection in Reutlingen on 31 May and 1 June. Sixty guests from all over the world attended. FOERSTER presented the latest products for the detection of ammunition and contaminated sites, which were developed over the past months. In addition to theory, the workshop focused on practical testing. Users reported on their hands-on experience with FOERSTER products and partner companies introduced complementary technologies from the areas of GPS and remote-controlled manipulator vehicles.

The first day started with a welcome by Company President Felix Förster and General Manager Thomas Himmler. During informative presentations the guests learned about the innovations happening in the market of ammunition detection and geomagnetics. Particular attention was paid to the newest generation of the FEREX 4-channel data logger with highly sensitive magnetometer sensors, which reliably detects ferromagnetic metal such as iron, steel or nickel. The FEREX is used both in archaeological and geophysical prospection as well as in explosive ordnance detection.

The new FEREX 4.034 is characterized by a significantly improved signal-to-noise ratio, comprehensive application software and reduced weight. With the help of GPS data, the exploration area can be easily defined. The software then calculates the exact tracks, depending on the number of probes used. Up to 4 probes

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can be used on a probe holder. The included navigation system guides the operator precisely to the starting point and provides valuable information during data acquisition. These include information on the current position, deviation from the ideal track, GPS connection status as well as the data quality. After completion of the data acquisition, the results are displayed directly on the color screen, providing an initial analysis.

The guests, coming from as far away as the USA, Angola and Thailand, were impressed by the further development of the FEREX: "We received very positive first feedback from our customers," said General Manager Thomas Himmler. To ensure that participants gained hands-on knowledge, the second day was held on the FOERSTER geophysical test field in Reutlingen. Here, detection objects can be placed in an underground tube system in order to locate them with the corresponding detector. There participants were able to experience the new functions of the FEREX 4.034 themselves, as well as of the other detectors.

At the end of the two days both participants and employees of FOERSTER were highly satisfied with the workshop. Participants were able to exchange knowledge and ideas and they went home with new inspiration. In addition, first projects were launched during the workshop.

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Image 1: Impression from the Workshop

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