



CASE STUDY MILITARY

Disaster never clock out and neither do we

Loss Event: contamination of equipment

Business type: military

Project duration: 4 months

In January 2011, the project was inspected by the Dutch generals. They were extremely impressed by the results. All of the material gleamed like new and – even more importantly – works in some cases better than before. The “new condition” also opens up new business opportunities for us: BELFOR Technology was introduced to various departments within the Dutch Ministry of Defence.

Out of Afghanistan!

The Dutch were first: following a parliamentary decision in October 2009, the Redeployment Task Force begun dismantling the Dutch military support posts in July 2010. All tents were taken down, all military equipment and paraphernalia are transferred back home, initially to the Army distribution centre in Coevorden, Netherlands. But the months spent in the sand and heat of the desert around Uruzgan, as well as two serious Taliban offensives, have left their mark: expensive hightech material – CCI equipment such as jammers and scramblers, as well as a broad portfolio of accessories, including rucksacks, batteries and electrical cables – have all been through the mill. A lot of equipment was still usable, but needed to be decontaminated professionally and made spick and span again.

The assignment

Several decontamination companies were invited to Coevorden to inspect the damage – among the “combatants” were the BELFOR Technology Netherlands experts. Once we’ve adapted our expertise and the decontamination knowhow of

the cooperating BELFOR technical competence center in Germany to the high demands of the Dutch military, we provided the Army with a detailed offer. “Reliable”, attests the Defence Department two weeks later. A few days later, BELFOR won the order.

The deployment

The operation began in September 2010. We relied on a combination strategy. In order to act more efficiently and in a more systematic manner, we set up two cleaning lines at different spots in the distribution centre: one for uncategorized equipment and one for categorized equipment, including classified army material. Due to the high security requirements, the latter was placed directly in the armoury and was only accessible to military personnel and authorised BELFOR employees. Under the strict supervision of military personnel, two BELFOR teams started to decontaminate the equipment using both wet and dry methods. Both cleaning lines are designed so that they can accommodate between four and fourteen workstations, depending on the “onslaught of material” coming in.

