

DHS Science and Technology Directorate Canine Training Aid Contamination Testing (K9-TACT)

K9-TACT – a Learning Opportunity

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science and Technology (S&T) Directorate's Explosives Detection Canine Program is providing a service to measure the vapor composition of explosives detection training aids, using a capability called Canine Training Aid Contamination Testing (K9-TACT). This service is provided at no expense to participants, to assist S&T in research and development.

The Importance of Maintenance Training

Maintenance training used to sustain explosive detection canine operational proficiency requires consistent odor presentation from explosive vapor training aids. The K9-TACT service will provide canine handlers with immediate feedback on the composition of their training aids. This information can be used to ensure that maintenance training meets the handlers' intended goals.

DHS S&T Partners

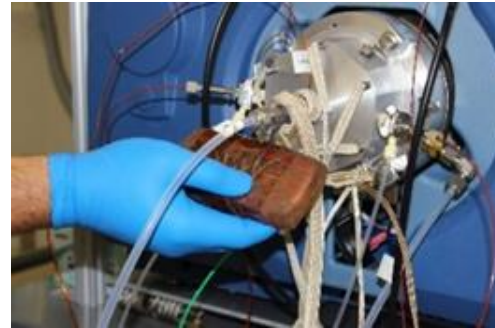
The K9-TACT service will be performed by MIT Lincoln Laboratory (MIT LL) under the DHS S&T Detection Canine Program. With DHS S&T guidance, MIT LL has developed a real-time vapor measurement capability to assist the DHS S&T Detection Canine Program in meeting its goals to better understand and train the explosive detection canine teams.



The MIT LL training aid provides measurement in real time



Sample canine training aids



A training aid being measured in the K9-TACT instrument. Participants will be able to test their own training aids.

Time and Location

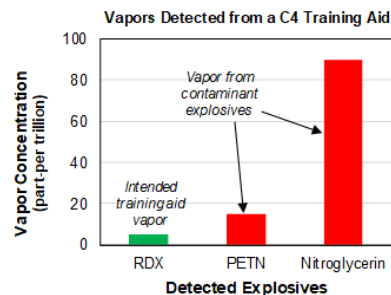
The K9-TACT service will be available from September 24 through October 5, 2018 on Hanscom Air Force Base in Lexington, MA. NOTE: Participation does not require the presence of canines.

Contact Information

If your team is interested in participating, please email k9-tact@ll.mit.edu after which you will be sent a confirmation email to select a specific time and date, along with receiving final directions and participation instructions. Additional information is available at <http://www.ll.mit.edu/k9-tact>.

Broader Mission

DHS S&T's Canine Program provides tools, techniques and knowledge to better understand, train and use explosive detection canine teams. The program's customers include federal, state and local law enforcement end-users of the explosive detection canine teams throughout the Homeland Security Enterprise.



Notional report on training aid chemical composition

