

Department of Health Emergency Preparedness Division selects NBC for Supply & Service of Mass Decon Shelters

Objective

To provide all UK Ambulance Services with Mass Decontamination Shelters for rapid deployment at Major Incidents including CBRN-related events.



Problem

The Department of Health (DH) had originally provided the Ambulance Service nationally with 1st Generation inflatable mobile decontamination units back in 2000.

Whilst the introduction of these was an important advance, DH concluded in 2008 that 2nd Generation mobile equipment would be procured.

These were to be purchased centrally by DH (PASA) and delivered to the 13 English, Scottish & Welsh Ambulance Services.

The scope would include Mass Decon Shelters plus all of necessary self-contained ready-to-run accessories including: tempered water supply, waste water collection, internal and external lighting, shelter heating, etc.

Given the Emergency Preparedness significance of this equipment, it was clearly vital that all Services were fully available and ready to deploy when needed. Consequently, selecting a partner that could offer full Service & Maintenance provision was critical.

Solution

DH thoroughly evaluated their options and ultimately sourced a solution provided by NBC Group, namely the Mass Decontamination Unit (MDU).

In all 84 - off Shelter systems were purchased by DH and were delivered to the 13 English, Scottish & Welsh Ambulance Services through 2009. Additional units were also provided to the Trust including the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service.

Each NBC supplied MDU comprised an 18 m² and a 36m² Shelter together with a Decon Cell. The supply of this combination allowed the Shelters to be deployed in a number of configurations proportionate to need, even irrespective of any decontamination requirement.

Now there's a better way



Design

The NBC supplied MDU is a rapid-deploy Decontamination Shelter configured specifically to meet the arduous demands of the Ambulance Services.

Major Benefits

- Speed of deploy - 3 people can deploy in less than 10 minutes.
- Interoperable with other Safeframe™ Shelters & configurable to give I T & H structures through modular design.
- Ease of use & therefore minimal ongoing training requirements.
- Minimal ongoing Service & Maintenance requirements.
- No heavy lifting involved/ no need for Manual Handling Equipment (MHE).
- Integrated groundsheet allows rapid deploy and provides a more protected working environment.
- PVC canvas is both durable and easy to keep clean.
- A rigid and weather-resistant structure.

Full Service Offering

- NBC's supply was not limited to just the Shelters, but included:
 - An 18m² and a 36m² Shelter in each MDU system
 - A wide range of Accessories including: Staking kits; Ballast; Internal & External Lighting; Water Heaters; Generators, etc.
 - Deploy & Strike-Down Training
 - Two year Service & Maintenance Contracts

Deployment Dependability

- A combination of the durable design, NBC's Service & Maintenance provision and the UK Ambulance Service's commitment to Emergency Preparedness through regular training ensure this deployment dependability.

Shelter Type	Purpose	Modesty Provision	Number of Showers	Working Space
SF 3D	Personal/ PRPS Mobile Decontamination	No	1 Standard	2.25 m ²
SF 7D	Personal/ PRPS Mobile Decontamination	Yes	1 Standard	6.75 m ²
SF 9D	2 Lane Mobile Decontamination	No	4 Standard	9 m ²
SF 15D	Multi User Mobile Decontamination	Yes	4 Standard	15 m ²
SF 18D	2 Lane Mobile Decontamination	No	6 Standard	18 m ²
SF MDU	Mass Mobile Decontamination	Yes	6 Standard	54 m ²

Available Options within the NBC Safeframe™ Decontamination Range

Certainty in an Uncertain World



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