



TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT RECOVERY PROCESS

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Introduction

The recovery of technical equipment, following contamination can be loosely grouped into four phases:

- Initial Incident Response
- Preservation and Conservation
- Decontamination
- Re-commissioning

Initial Incident Response

Immediately following contamination it is essential to stabilise the condition of affected equipment, and the environment within which the equipment is stored in order to minimise the risk of further contamination or damage. Following stabilisation a detailed inspection of the equipment can be carried out to assess the degree of damage and recommend recovery options.

Preservation and Conservation

This encompasses whatever activities are required to maintain the equipment in a recoverable state until such time as a decision is made with regard to recovery.

Decontamination

Effective decontamination of technical equipment will generally involve the following:

- Dismantling to the level required to ensure that all sub components/assemblies can be thoroughly decontaminated. Full documentation of the disassembly process is carried out to ensure correct re-assembly following cleaning.
- Sub components and assemblies are precision cleaned.
- Sub components assessed as being damaged beyond economical repair are replaced.
- Protective plating and coatings on corrosion-prone components should be re-instated if they are damaged to an extent that they are no longer providing the required protection.
- Bolts, nuts and other minor fixtures and fittings, which may be prone to corrosion and or are uneconomical to clean, are replaced.
- The equipment is reassembled with reference to the documentation generated during the disassembly process.

Re-Commissioning

Following decontamination, the equipment is tested and any faults related to the contamination event, repaired. Some precision equipment will require realignment or recalibration checks prior to being re-commissioned on site. The equipment is then ready for return to the client and re-commissioning.

Whilst professional equipment recovery companies can carry out most re-commissioning, it is recommended that for non standard or precision equipment, the manufacturer or their agent be engaged to complete the re-commissioning process.