



The Envision System



RSP 1 approaches a suspicious package.



RSP 2 closely watches monitor.



Bomb Killers at the RNC

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During the week of Republican National Convention (RNC) Mall of America (MOA) Security Department was given the opportunity to utilize the “Bomb Killer” bomb containment and mitigation ring. Although, luckily neither real explosive device was found on Mall of America’s property nor there was an actual explosion the “Bomb Killer” was proven to be a very valuable tool in the tool box of MOA Security Department.

At Mall Of America we put security as our top priority. We also acknowledge that our facility is an attractive place for anyone with harmful/ terroristic intentions since on a slow day we have 30, 000 to 40,000 people and on a very busy weekend we have as many as 500,000 to 600,000 people a day. That’s why we take this extra step and have our own Behavior Detection Unit, K-9 Unit, Explosive Trace Detection technology and big practical Terrorism Awareness training for MOA’ Security Officers. We also often test our officers by infiltrating IED looking devices on our property and measuring detection and response times.

Part of our struggle at Mall Of America is a high number of unattended bags and items left around. We do take each and every bag seriously and apply different mitigation solutions to each and every one of them. Always troubling question was what do we do about the personal protection of our officers in those situations? We do establish a short perimeter in order to protect the masses, but at the same time we know that if something in this bag would go off our Officers will be severely injured or dead. That’s where the “Bomb Killer” came in handy. It was proven to be an easy to transport item that allowed us to have an immediate protection. During the RNC there were times where we had suspicious / unattended items in the midst of 200-300 people with only one Officer initiating the initial perimeter. I can’t say enough great words about the “Bomb Killer”, because in those situations the second Officer bringing in the “Bomb Killer” was able to establish immediate protection while the masses were still in immediate threat area.

At the same time we realized that although this bomb mitigation ring is a great asset it doesn’t give an answer to all situations. For example when the item is located 4-6 feet from the ground the ‘Bomb Killer’ becomes inapplicable. It is important to know the limitations of each and every toll in your toolbox.

Big thanks once again to Daniel Murphy from IABTI and SEMAWORLD for letting MOA Security Department use the “Bomb Killer” during the high profile week of RNC. It made all Security and Law Enforcement personnel responding to unattended/suspicious bags calls more confident and secure.



Michael Rozin has been a member of the IABTI, Region III, since 2007. ☘