

Year Activity 2008 (NRH)

In 2008, our search and rescue dogs have been more active than ever. We have taken part in 245 searches. That is 14 % more than in 2007. 1349 of our dog handlers were active in searches last year and they spent 8554 hours on search and rescue missions. This means that each dog equipage spends about six hours on average on a search and rescue mission. The Police and the Red Cross are now more often than ever using our dog equipages and they are using more equipages on each individual search and rescue mission. And even more importantly: we are finding more lost persons! In 2008, 32 people were found by our dog equipages. 30 of them were alive. This is a very motivating factor for our dog handlers – we *do* make a difference.

We are always striving to become even better, and the training for dog handlers as well as the training for the instructors are constantly being analysed. We try to be up to date and informed on the best methods to train a search and rescue dog and we are always interested in learning about how organizations in other countries train their dogs and the handlers.