



# PRESS RELEASE – IRO

International Rescue Dog Organisation, Moosstraße 32, 5020 Salzburg

---

IRO-PRESS

Aleksandra Nagele, [press@iro-dogs.org](mailto:press@iro-dogs.org)

0043 (0)676 / 3084148

Sunday, 27.04.2014

## FROM CANADA TO KUFSTEIN: INT. DAY OF SEARCH AND RESCUE DOGS 2014

**Yesterday IRO rescue dogs from the Fire Brigade Vienna found two persons burried under rubble after a building collapse in Vienna. At todays Int. Day of Search and Rescue Dogs the heroes on four paws show how important their work is at 25 events in 14 countries.**

Two of the missing persons after the explosion in a residential building in Vienna were found by the good noses of rescue dogs of the Fire Brigade Vienna. The rescue dog squad of the Fire Brigade Vienna is one of the 117 members of the International Rescue Dog Organisation (IRO) who is active worldwide.

### **Building explosion: dangerous deployment in Vienna**

A total of three rescue dogs has been deployed. First the Labrador Benji found a 19 year old under the rubble. Shortly after that Giant Schnauzer Flint found a second person under the rubble of the building. The deployment was somehow dangerous, says dog handler Markus Bock, who was searching on the rubble with Benji: ‚A lot of feeling and work of the handler was necessary as the building was still prone to collapse in many parts‘. Dog and handler risk their own health at deployments like this one. But when it is about saving lifes fast and professional help is important.

### **‚Ready for mission 365 days a year for you‘**

In Eberschwang (Upper Austria) the public could see how a puppy is trained to become a rescue dog. The youngest dogs were only 14 weeks old. A highlight was the visit of IRO Trainer Alois Russeger who was national champion with his Belgian Sheperd Hero Mi-Ji in 2012. There was thrill and action in Tirol (Austria) for example when the rescue dogs were abseiled from a 20 meter high crane in order to simulate a helicopter flight. Rescue work in the water was the attraction at a lake in Oedt in Upper Austria. The dogs of the voluntary fire brigade were searching for a missing person there. Brave visitors were hiding themselves in a dark cellar in Felixdorf (Lower Austria) in order to be found by the rescue dogs of ÖGV. The International Day of Search and Rescue Dogs took place for the seventh time already.

Information about all events worldwide at [www.rescue-dog-day.org](http://www.rescue-dog-day.org)

### **Pictures:**

Rescue dog handler Markus Bock with Benji. Benji found a missing 19 year old at the building explosion yesterday in Vienna:

[www.iro-dogs.org/uploads/tx\\_templavoila/HF\\_MarkusBock\\_02.JPG](http://www.iro-dogs.org/uploads/tx_templavoila/HF_MarkusBock_02.JPG)

International Day of Search and Rescue Dogs:

<http://www.iro-dogs.org/en/press/downloads/recent-pictures/tdrh-2014.html>

Puppies:

[www.iro-dogs.org/en/press/downloads/pictures/junghunde-und-ausbildung.html](http://www.iro-dogs.org/en/press/downloads/pictures/junghunde-und-ausbildung.html)

More:

<http://www.iro-dogs.org/en/press/downloads/pictures.html>

Further inquiries

IRO-Press, Wolfgang Hitsch (holiday replacement)

Tel.: 0664 / 88738441 [press@iro-dogs.org](mailto:press@iro-dogs.org)

### **About IRO**

The International Rescue Dog Organisation (IRO) was founded as worldwide umbrella organisation of national rescue dog organisations in 1993 and has the goal to save lives through the deployment of mission ready rescue dogs. The International Day of Search and Rescue Dogs is organised by IRO since 2008. IRO is registered charitable association with an international Executive Board. The umbrella organisation is headquartered in Austria (Salzburg). Member of IRO are national rescue dog organisation – currently 117 organisations from 40 countries on all continents.