

Terminal Effects of New Small Arms Ammunition



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SNC TEC & SIMUNITION®

New Cartridges for 5.56mm Weapons

International Infantry & Joint Services Small Arms Systems Annual Symposium: 17 May 2005

Authors: John MacDougall & André Bernier



SNC TEC Facilities

SNC TEC is ISO 9001 –2000 certified:

- LAP operations, primers at Le Gardeur, near Montréal
- Brass cases & metal parts at St-Augustin, near Québec
- Extruded propellant at Valleyfield, near Montréal
- GO/CO Proof & Test range at Nicolet, Québec
- EU HQ in Brussels with SNC TEC-Lavalin offices



New Cartridges from SNC TEC

- 5.56mm SRTA:
- 5.56mm CQT[®]:
- 5.56mm FX[®]:
- 5.56mm LRTA:
- 5.56mm IP™:
- 40mm DragonFly™: I

Short Range Training Ammunition Close Quarters Target practice Marking Cartridge Limited Range Training Ammunition

Improved Performance operational

Low Velocity Training Grenade



5.56mm SRTA PROGRAM

OBJECTIVE

- Develop a 5.56mm Lead Free SRTA cartridge for training with the M4/M16/M249 family of weapons
- The SRTA cartridge will replace the 5.56mm M862 cartridge without requiring any weapon modifications



M862 works in M16A2 only

5.56mm SRTA Requirements

SRTA initial performance requirements:

- Dispersion: Sum of 2 sides of rectangle < 20cm at 25m</p>
- ±1mil Ballistic match with M855 round at 25m
- No weapon modifications permitted
- Functioning from –20° to +40° C
- Similar noise & recoil to M855
- Mark Silhouette targets
- Lead-free components
- Max range of 250m

Not an easy challenge!



5.56mm SRTA Phase 1A Results

Phase 1A results:

- Monolithic finned projectile gave best results
- Gyroscopically stable (factor > 1)
- Good accuracy & match at 25m
- Low impact obliquity on target
- But, Max range in excess of 250m !

Additional performance requirement after Phase 1:

- Must be Frangible on hard targets
 - User-imposed requirement to limit range damage



5.56mm SRTA Phase 1B – Internally funded

Phase 1B approach:

- Prioritize 250m max range requirement
- Focus on frangible concepts only
- Accept impact obliquity on target
- Perform more iterations on forward fins
- Reduce Gyroscopic factor; evaluate stability



5.56mm SRTA Phase 1B

SNC TEC most promising prototype in Phase 1B:

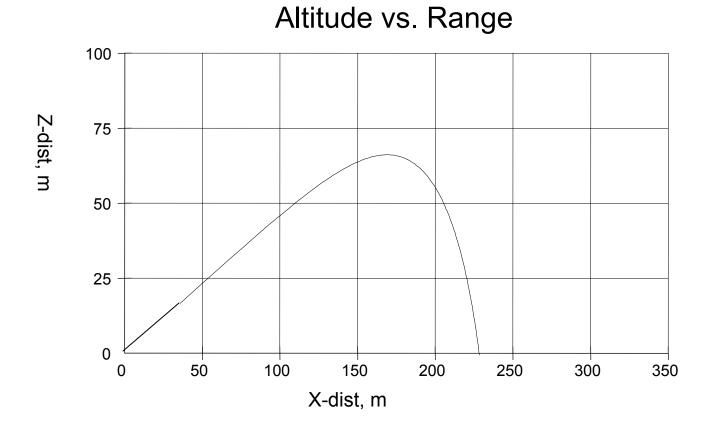
- Forward fins, frangible projectile
- Same metal injection molded compound as SIMUNITION[®]
 GREENSHIELD[®] frangible training ammunition





5.56mm SRTA Max Range Test

RADAR Test data analysis





1. FRANGIBILITY

- No penetration with one projectile hitting a hard target
 - (3/8" thick armor steel plate)



REQUIREMENT IS MET

2. DISPERSION

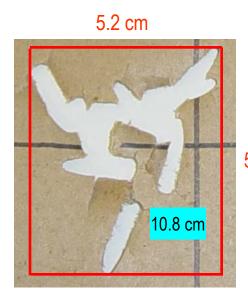
BARREL	SERIES	HOR. (cm)	VERT. (cm)	H + V (cm)	
#534	1	6.1	5.8	11.9	
	2	5.9	6.7	12.6	
	3	7.6	4.8	12.4	Accuracy barrel
#539	4	5.2	5.6	10.8	
	5	7.6	5.8	13.4	
	6	4.0	4.2	8.2	
AVG				11.6	

20cm REQUIREMENT IS MET

2. DISPERSION

- Dispersion was less than the required 20cm at 25m when fired from an accuracy barrel
 - Typical dispersion at 25m is 12cm
 - High obliquity at 25m !

SRTA





5.6 cm

GREENSHIELD®

3.4 cm

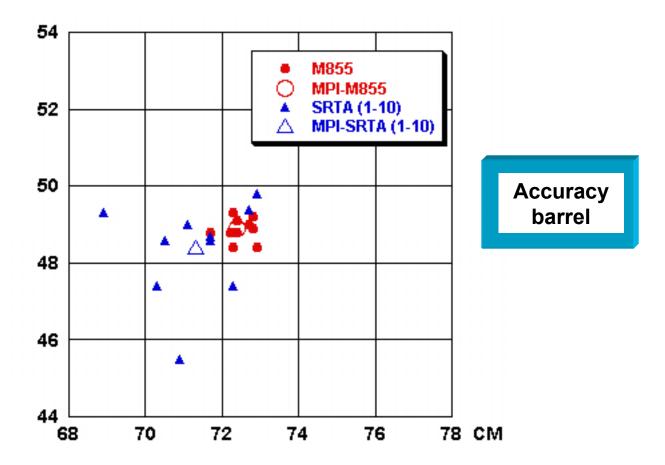


V

2.0 cn

3. BALLISTIC MATCH WITH M855

Match is better than 1 mil at 25m fired from accuracy barrel



5.56mm SRTA Phase 1B Results

Phase 1B results:

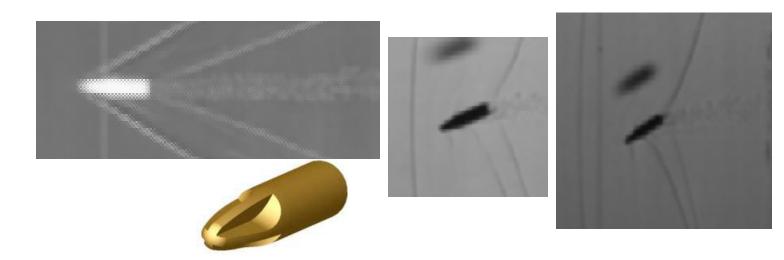
- Frangible projectile requirement met
- Accuracy requirement met: approx. 12cm at 25m
- Max range requirement met: approx. 225m
- Ballistic match requirement met at 25m
- High impact obliquity on target at 25m



Spark Range Tests

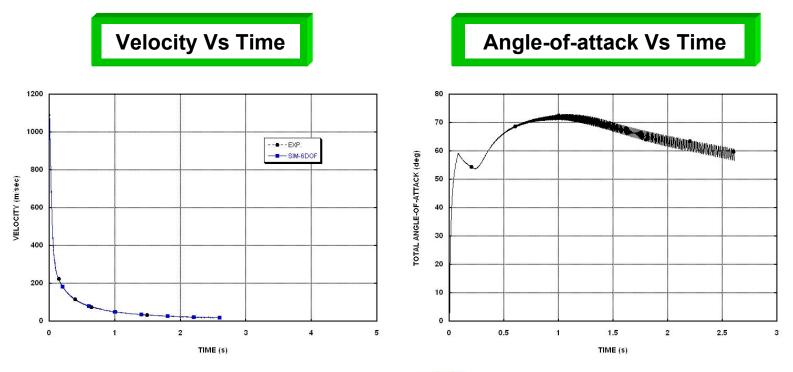
Understanding the flight behavior of 5.56mm SRTA

- Spark range tests were conducted on 0.50 cal scaled-up model
 at CDN Defence Research & Development Centre Valcartier
- key holing" at 25m is due to a high Magnus dynamic instability
- Max range requirement met because the projectile experiences high Magnus dynamic instability at all Mach numbers, causing yaw to increase in flight



SRTA Flight Behavior

6DOF trajectory simulation

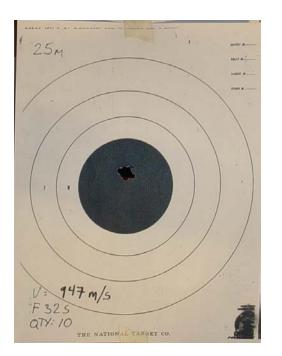




Alternate design – New Frangible (NF) concept

Evaluation of alternate design

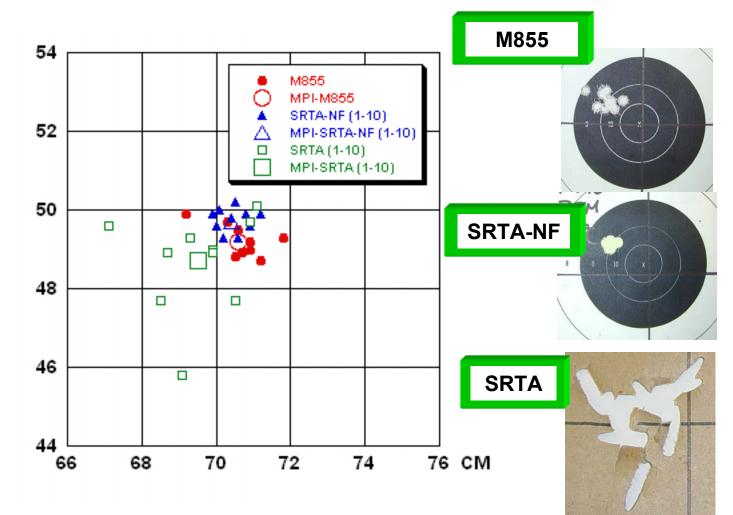
- Dispersion with New Frangible concept was lower at 25m when fired from an accuracy barrel at all temperatures
 - 10 rounds fired at 25m, less yaw than first SRTA concept
 - Better accuracy and ballistic match





Alternate design – New Frangible (NF) concept

DISPERSION and MATCH with M855 (SRTA & NF)



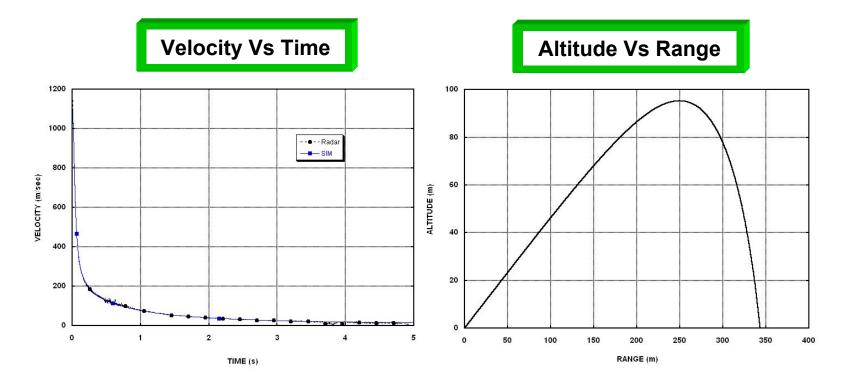
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Max Range of Alternate design – NF concept

MAXIMUM RANGE (SRTA-NF)

- Maximum range of NF was less than 400m (5 rounds fired)
- Typical results were 350m when fired at 25° gun elevation



SIMUNITION[®] 5.56mm CQT[®]







SIMUNITION[®] 5.56mm CQT[®]

Advanced tactical shooting in non-ballistic facilities:

- Target practice in areas with reduced safety ranges
- Reduced lethality vs. ball or frangible rounds
- Training in environmentally sensitive areas
- 20 ± 5 Joules typical muzzle energy
- Ideal for training in Shoot-Houses
- Works with conversion bolt
- Non-toxic plastic projectile
- Ready for Qualification
- Functions in all M4A1, M249 and M16A2 weapons



5.56mm CQT® Ballistics

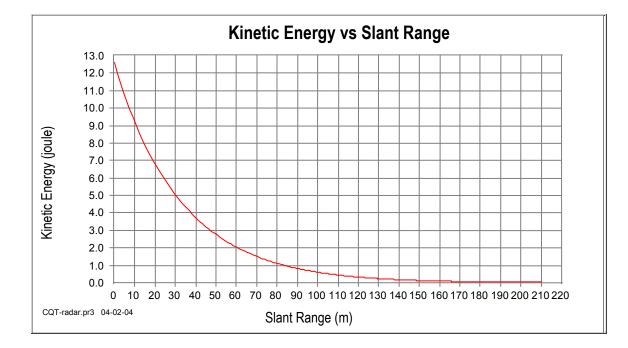
Terminal ballistics:

- No penetration of 25mm plywood sheet at 10m
- No penetration of 12.7mm plywood sheet at 50m
- 300 meters max range
- Accuracy at 50m
 - Less than 30cm max spread
- Ballistic match at 50m
 - MPI of ± 20cm with 5.56mm ball rounds



SIMUNITION[®] 5.56mm CQT[®]

Kinetic Energy vs. Range, fired from M4 carbine





SIMUNITION® 5.56mm FX[®] Marking Cartridges







SIMUNITION[®] 5.56mm FX[®]

Force on Force MOUT training round:

- Non-lethal, deformable, sealed polymer projectile
- Patented FX[®] projectile "mushrooms" open on impact
- Impact energy spread over a larger area
- Permits higher muzzle velocity, and
- Reduced time of flight for:

Increased probability of hit on moving targets



5.56mm FX[®] Design Criteria

Objective: No penetration into human tissue

Means: Limit impact energy density of hits:

- Control muzzle velocity & projectile impact area
- Tests by Sellier & Kneubuel show the energy bare human skin can absorb before breaking is approx. 0.1 J/mm²
- Data generated by USAF Joint Non-Lethal Weapons, Human Effects Center of Excellence indicates that the maximum energy level the skin can absorb without penetration is 0.26 J/mm²

Energy Density = KE / Area = $\frac{1}{2}$ mV_i² / $\frac{1}{4}\pi$ d_i²

Where M = projectile mass, V_i = impact velocity and d_i = projectile impact diameter

5.56mm FX[®] Energy Density

SIMUNITION® 5.56mm FX[®]:

- 0.25g projectile at 200 m/s; KE = 5.0 Joules
- Impact projectile diameter = 9mm
- Impact Energy Density = 0.08 J/mm²

SIMUNITION[®] 9mm FX[®]:

- 0.45g projectile at 145 m/s; KE = 4.7 Joules
- Impact projectile diameter = 11mm
- Impact Energy Density = 0.05 J/mm²

FX® impact energy is below skin rupture threshold



5.56mm FX[®] Terminal Effects Tests Performed

Trade off between long range match & accuracy vs. short range safety

Users demand greater effective range for training!

Terminal ballistic performance:

- No penetration of bare 20% ballistic gelatine at 0m
- No penetration of 10% ballistic gelatine protected with a single layer of military uniform material at 5m
- No penetration of 1.52mm thick Sand, Wind & Dust goggles at 0m
- No penetration of military uniform on swine tissue blocks from 0 to 5m



SIMUNITION[®] FX[®] Test Results – No Penetration

20% bare gelatine 1m, BDU & 10% gelatine 5m and SWD goggles at 30cm





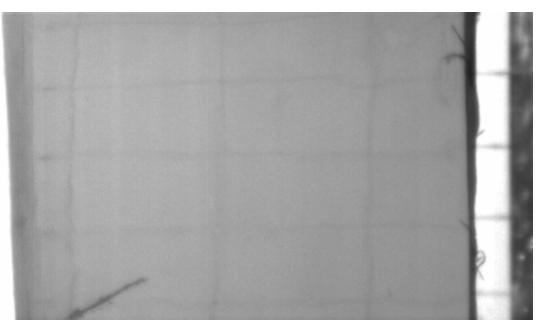
SIMUNITION[®] FX[®] USE

FX[®] is a Non-lethal training round:

- Numerous field trials conducted over last year
- Safe for use in force-on-force exercises at close range
- Head, throat and groin protection recommended
- Use with full BDU covering



SIMUNITION[®] FX[®] High Speed Video – No penetration



Video:

 5.56mm FX[®] Marking Cartridge on BDU against 20% gelatin at 5m range



SIMUNITION[®] FX[®] High Speed Video – Projectile Deformation



Video:

5.56mm FX[®] Marking Cartridge Impact on a LEXAN plate



5.56mm LRTA Performance

The 5.56mm LRTA Cartridge is:

- Limited Range Training Ammunition
- Internal SNC TEC R&D program
- Ready for qualification

LRTA performance objectives:

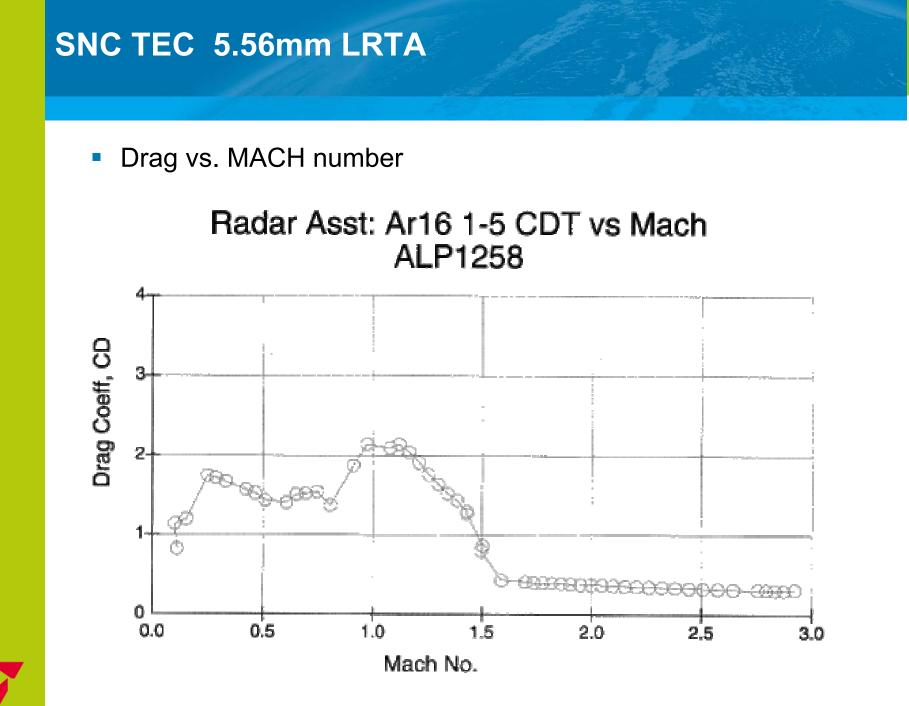
- ±1mil Ballistic match with Ball round at 100m
- Dispersion: SDx, SDy < 5.5cm at 100m
- No weapon modifications required
- Functioning from –30° to +52° C
- No fragmentation in ballistic gelatin
- Non-toxic components
- Max range of 1,000m

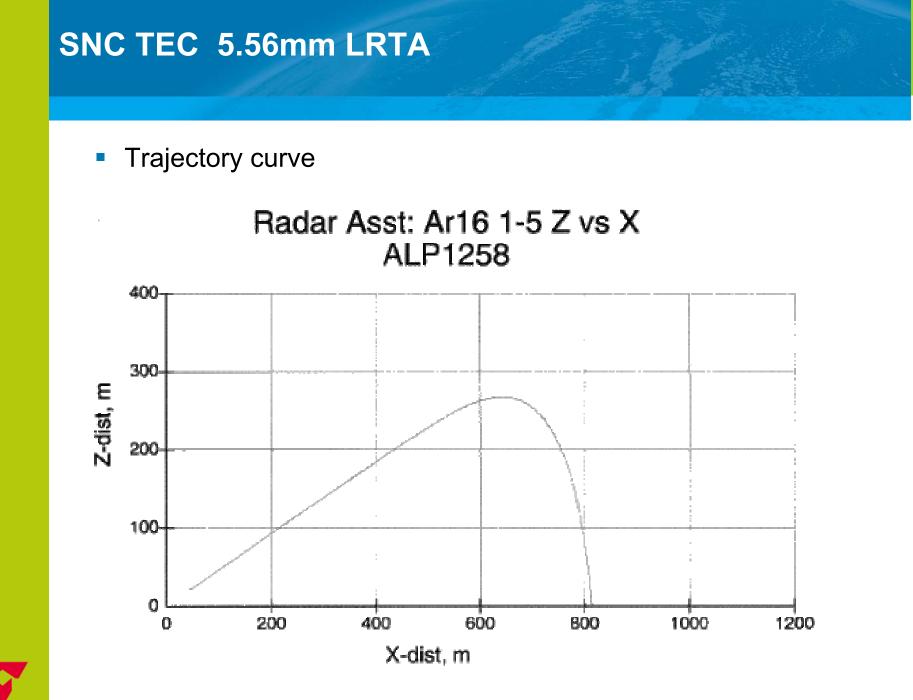


5.56mm LRTA Concept

- Monolithic finned projectile
- Typical dispersion (SD) of 3.5 cm at 100m
- Typical ballistic match of 2cm at 100m
- No impact obliquity on target at 100m
- Weapon function at all temperatures







SNC TEC 5.56mm IP[™] (XC77A1)

▶ The 5.56mm IP[™] Cartridge:

- Improved Performance
- Operational Ammunition
- Hard steel core green bullet
- Non-toxic TOXFREE[™] primer
- Improved penetration in hard targets
- Enhanced lethality over standard ball rounds
- Meets all NATO MOPI specifications
- Replacement for current 3-piece steel/lead core bullets



5.56mm IP™

Wound ballistics:

- Recent lethality study performed at the RMC of Canada
- 5.56mm IP equal to standard ball on unprotected targets
- 5.56mm IP greater than ball against protected targets
- 5.56mm IP starts to tumble faster than std ball projectile

Ballistic gelatine tests:

- 20% ordnance gelatin
- Simulate 550m range, modified twist barrel
- 2 High speed cameras, 10k frames/sec
- With and without Body Armor



5.56mm IP™

Probability of incapacitation:

- Given a hit: P(I/H)
- Using Handbook of Human Vulnerability model (HHV)
- Fragment mass and residual velocity key variables
- Kinetic energy deposited, penetration depth
- Test on unprotected and protected targets

Target types (Protected/Unprotected):

Protection was CRISAT panel 5cm in front of block



5.56mm IP™

Striking velocity Results:

Striking Velocity in block	Protected Target		Unprotected Target		
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
5.56mm IP	266 m/s	30 m/s	396 m/s	17 m/s	
C77	246 m/s	20 m/s	402 m/s	27 m/s	



5.56mm IP[™] Protected Target

P(I/H) Results:

Protected Targets	P(I/H)	P(I/H)	
550m range	C77 ball round	IP round	
Defence < 30 seconds	.28	.33	
Assault < 30 seconds	.38	.44	
Assault < 5 minutes	.49	.54	
Support/Supply < 12 hours	.51	.56	



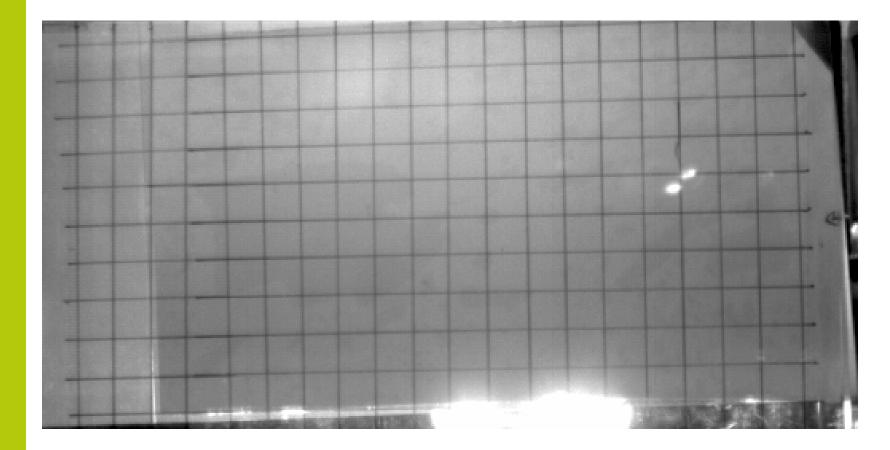
5.56mm IP[™] Unprotected Target

P(I/H) Results:

Unprotected Targets	P(I/H)	P(I/H)	
550m range	C77 ball round	IP round	
Defence < 30 seconds	.36	.37	
Assault < 30 seconds	.48	.50	
Assault < 5 minutes	.58	.59	
Support/Supply < 12 hours	.60	.61	



5.56mm IP[™] - 20% Gelatine Penetration Video





5.56mm IP[™] Unprotected Target: 40m range

Penetration Results:

			Temporary cavity			
Rounds	Projectile	Length of narrow channel (in)	Max. diameter (in)	Maximum volume (in ³)	Maximum area (in²)	
1	XC77A1	2.25	3.46	80	25	
1	C77	4	2.54	58	19	

Target distance: 40 meters, C7 rifle, Full charge. Gelatin 20% conditioned at +5°C.



New 40mm LV Training Concept: DragonFly™

Cost-effective target practice system

Re-usable steel cartridge case KIT:

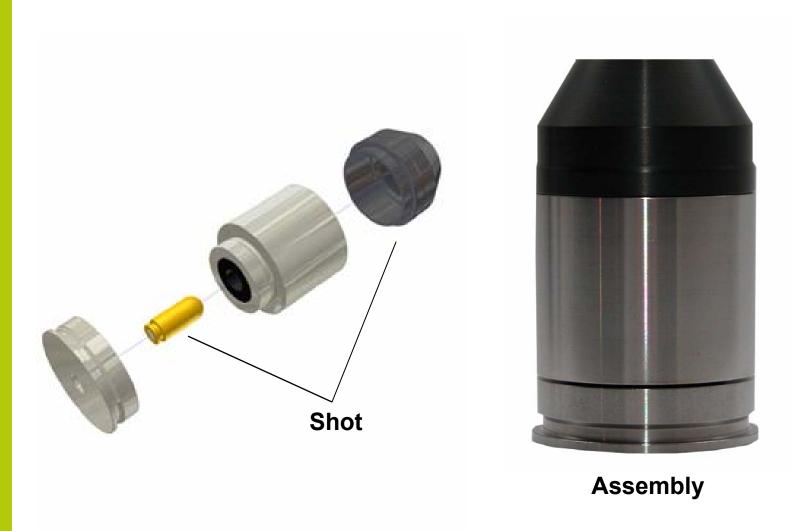
- Simple, but effective 2-piece design
- High/Low pressure chambers
- Patent pending

Affordable SHOTS:

- Comprises Projectile & Propulsion system
- Powered by specially modified blank round
- 1.4S explosive class



40mm DragonFly[™] Assembly



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40mm DragonFly[™] Components



Re-usable Conversion Kit



Propulsion System



40mm DragonFly™ Shots



Light



Medium



Heavy



40mm DragonFly[™] Designs

- **3** different designs of SHOT available:
- 25m training = Light SHOT, 15g projectile
- **50m training = Medium SHOT, 50g projectile**
- 100m training = Heavy SHOT, 120g projectile
- SHOT propulsion via modified blank round:
 - 1 SHOT = 1 projectile & 1 blank



40mm DragonFly[™] Performance

40mm performance:

- Light SHOT: 35cm max spread at 25m
- Medium SHOT: 35cm max spread at 50m
- Heavy SHOT: 50cm max spread at 100m
- Function in:
 - M203, H&K 69 and other 40 x 46mm launchers
- No weapon modifications required
- Functioning temperatures from –8° to +40° C



40mm DragonFly™ Status

- Newest SIMUNITION[®] training product
- Effective training for MOUT ranges
- Non-toxic projectiles
- Ready for qualification
- Available for demos



Summary of New Rounds from SNC TEC

CONCLUSION

Comparison Table: Terminal Effects of New Ammunition

5.56mm Product	Application	Optimal Range	Match with Ball	Typical Accuracy	Max Range	Lethality	Status
FX®	Interactive Training	30m	± 30cm	20cm max spread	200m	Non- lethal	In Production
CQT®	Target Training	50m	± 30cm	20cm max spread	300m	Reduced lethality	In Qualification
SRTA	Target Training	25m	± 2.5cm	< 20cm rectangle	250m	Lethal at short range	
LRTA	Target Training	100m	± 2cm	3.5cm SD	1,000m	Lethal at limited range	Ready for Qualification
IP™	Operational	0-550m	Equivalent	12cm SD	4,400m	Lethal	In Production
40mm DragonFly™	Target Training	25– 100m	Not Applicable	35-50cm max spread	150 to 400m	Lethal	In Production

