

PRESSURE RELIEF SYSTEM FOR HIGH PRESSURE MEDIUM CALIBER AMMUNITION

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BACKGROUND

- DOD'S INSENSITIVE MUNITIONS EFFORT HAS LED TO SIGNIFICANT ADVANCES IN SAFETY OF AMMUNITION STOCKPILE.
- Few IM Improvements Made in Medium Caliber Ammunition.
 - COMMON GUN FUNCTIONALITY
 - NATO STANDARDIZATION REQUIREMENTS
 - COMPLEX GUN & AMMUNITION
 INTERACTIONS
- US/INTERNATIONAL PATENT'S PENDING.

PRESSURE RELIEF SYSTEM FOR MEDIUM CALIBER AMMUNITION

COMPRISES IM VENT PLUG OR BASE PLUG SURROUNDING PRIMER IN BASE OF CARTRIDGE CASE





FUNCTION

NORMAL OPERATION CONDITION

HIGH TEMPERATURE CONDITION

THE RUPTURE DISC AND FUSIBLE MATERIAL WORK TOGETHER TO SUPPORT THE HIGH PRESSURE AND HANDLING REQUIREMENTS.

THE FUSIBLE MATERIAL MELTS AND THE RUPTURE DISC BREAKS MINIMIZING THE SEVERITY OF THE **IM** RESPONSE.



AMMUNITION HANDLING





NORMAL OPERATION CONDITION

FUNCTION FIRE IN MOST AUTOMATIC WEAPONS AND CANNONS SIGNIFICANTLY RAISES THE CARTRIDGE CASE TEMPERATURE







ENERGETIC EVENT:

- PRIMER INITIATES DUE TO HIGH TEMPERATURE. PROPELLANT BURNS DUE TO ENERGY RELEASED BY PRIMER.
- **PROPELLANT INITIATES DUE TO HIGH TEMPERATURE.**





EXAMPLE DESCRIPTION



THERMAL ANALYSIS (SLOW COOK-OFF TEST)



Time: 55 hours

THERMAL ANALYSIS (FAST COOK-OFF TEST)





STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS (NORMAL OPERATION CONDITION)



COMBUSTION CHAMBER PRESSURE: 450 MPA



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STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS (HIGH TEMPERATURE CONDITION)



COMBUSTION CHAMBER PRESSURE: 10 MPA





SUMMARY

- A NEW IM MITIGATION CONCEPT HAS BEEN DEVELOPED COMPRISING A RUPTURE DISC AND PRESSURE RELIEF CHANNEL FILLED WITH FUSIBLE MATERIAL
- THERMAL AND STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS HAVE PROVEN OUT THE DESIGN IN NORMAL WEAPON OPERATION AND AT HIGH TEMPERATURES ASSOCIATED WITH SLOW AND FAST COOK-OFF