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#### History:

- Forcit was founded in 1893, Finland
- Since 1920's been a manufacturer for armed forces: ammunition, TNT -> PBX -> Defence System supplier
- Development and production of PBX's since 1983



Hanko plant

#### Today:

- Forcit is the largest explosives producer in Nordic countries
- Own R&D programmes and PBX family, also commonly known PBXN-109 etc.
- One of the largest PBX manufacturers in Europe



Forcit founder John Malcom Lewin 1893



- BLOCKER, is a cost effective Influence Mine equipped with advanced sensor systems (acoustic-, pressure- and magnetic sensors, optionally UEP)
- The BLOCKER is manufactured by OY FORCIT AB in Finland.
   Development was initiated by the Finnish Navy with serial production starting in 2013.
- Insensitive Munitions Plastic Bonded Explosives,
   FOXIT and FPX R1M as a booster.
   Total underwater energy output equivalent to over 1000 kg of TNT





BLOCKER PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS			
Shape	Barrel		
Height	Max. 1300 mm		
Length	Max. 900 mm		
Width	Max. 900 mm		
Gross weight	~750 kg		
Net explosive quantity	~600 kg		
OPERATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS			
Shelf-life	25 years		
Climate categories	C1-B2, -33 °C up to +63 °C		
Main charge (EIDS)	FOXIT-Plastic Bonded Explosive		
Booster charge	FPX R1- Plastic Bonded Explosive		
Operational in water	Minimum 1 year (option min 2 years)		
Underwater Shock energy (50 m)	1,4 x TNT		
Underwater Bubble energy (50 m)	2,2 x TNT		



- Both main charge and booster explosives widely tested and qualified (STANAG).
- FOXIT has been tested according to UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and testing has been performed by Finnish Defence Forces Research Agency. Based on the tests, FOXIT meets the requirements of EIS-material (Extremely Insensitive Substance)
- Qualification of the booster explosive FPX R1 has been performed by UK MOD, Swedish Armed Forces and Finnish Defence Forces.
- Underwater Influence Mine, BLOCKER system and its main charge (FOXIT) and booster (FPX R1) combination have proven to be insensitive enough to be classified to 1.6N.
- The aim was to get international transport classification in hazard division
   1.6 and compatibility group N under the UN 0486.



- This Mine fulfils all the IM requirements.
- Tests and classification for 1.6N was initiated.
- After completing the extensive testing, the work to classify the Underwater Influence Mine to 1.6N was finalized in Finland 2018.



- In addition to STANAG IM tests, the UN Tests 7 (g) 7(k) and series 4 have been conducted to the whole Underwater Influence Mine (Article). Series 3, 5 and 7 (a) 7(f) tests have been made on the FOXIT (Substance). According to tests performed by FDRA, the Underwater Influence Mine is not too dangerous to transport (the Manual of Tests and Criteria, Series 4) and it is thermally stable (the Manual of Tests and Criteria, Series 3).
- The Underwater Influence Mine passes all the test series 7 tests, and therefore the Underwater Influence Mine could be assigned to division 1.6.
- Booster less than 0,25 vol-% and hence no need for EIS, according to Transport of Dangerous Goods Manual of Tests and Criteria 6<sup>th</sup> edition.



• 7 (a) – 7 (f) tests on FOXIT

TEST	DESCRIPTION	RESULT
7 (a) EIDS Cap test	Shock test to determine the sensitivity to detonation by a standard	no reaction – pass
7 (a) LIDS cap test	detonator.	no reaction pass
7 (b) EIDS Gap test	Shock test with defined booster and confinement to determine the sensitivity to shock. The gap is defined as thickness of PMMA. The substance will pass the test if there is no transmission with the gap thickness of 70 mm or less with the used test assembly.	50 mm - pass
7 (c) EIDS Impact Sensitivity	Test to determine the sensitivity of the explosive substance to deteriorate under the effect of an impact.	Not applicable since the diameter of test charges is well below the critical diameter.
7 (d) EIDS Bullet Impact Test	Test to determine the degree of reaction of the explosive substance to impact or penetration resulting from a given energy source.	Fire - pass
7 (e) EIDS External Fire Test  Close to SCB-test (Stanag 4491)	Test to determine the reaction of the explosive substance to external fire when the material is confined.	Pressure burst – pass
7 (f) EIDS Slow Cook-off Test	Test to determine the reaction of the explosive substance in an environment in which the temperature is gradually increased to 365 °C.	Pressure burst – pass
Close to SCB-test (Stanag 4491)		



# Performed tests on Influence Mine Test results from UN Test series 7 (EIDS test result)

TEST	ARTICLE	DESCRIPTION	RESULT
7 (g) 1.6 Article External Fire Test	Complete influence mine	Test to determine whether there is a mass explosion or a hazard from dangerous projections, radiant heat and/or violent burning when involved in a fire.	Burning - pass
7 (h) 1.6 Article Slow Cook-off Test	Complete influence mine	Test to determine the reaction of the article in an environment in which the temperature is gradually increased to 365 °C.	Burning - pass
7 (j) 1.6 Article Bullet Impact Test	Tests performed on sea mine and separately on booster	Test to determine the degree of reaction of the article to impact or penetration resulting from a given energy source.	FPX R1 booster:  Burning – pass  Sea mine: Burning - pass
7 (k) 1.6 Article Stack Test	Complete influence mine	Test to determine whether a detonation of an article, as offered for transport, will initiate a detonation in an adjacent, like article.	30 cm – detonation 40 cm - pass

7 (h) 1.6 Article Slow Cook-off Test







Result: Burning - Pass



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7 (j) 1.6 Article Bullet Impact Test	Tests performed on sea mine and separately on booster	Test to determine the degree of reaction of the article to impact or penetration resulting from a given energy source.	FPX R1 booster:  Burning – pass  Sea mine: Burning - pass
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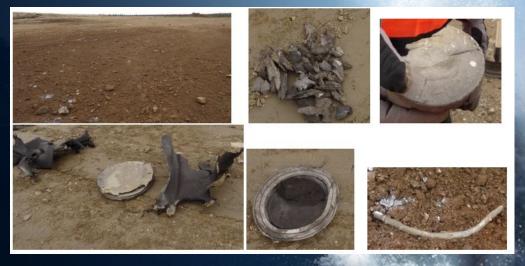
7 (k) 1.6 Article Stack Test





No propagation at 35cm → 7(k) tests at 40cm

Booster, SAU with detonator etc.





IM testing example: SCJ Impact test according to STANAG 4526

TEST	RESULT
SCJ Impact test according to STANAG 4526	Deflagration/burning - pass



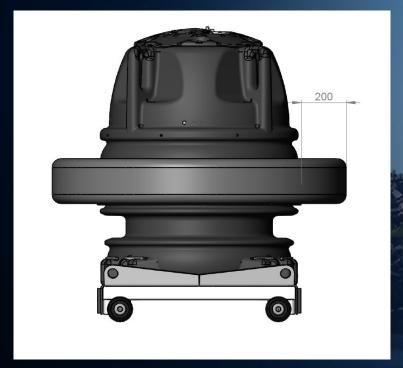




66mm hollow charge



Transport and storage configuration





#### **Current status**

The concept has been discussed with the Finnish Safety and Chemicals Agency and also with the Finnish Transport Safety Agency. The Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals) had this topic on their agenda during their meeting in Geneva November 2017. There was an international consensus, providing that if all the tests required has been performed acceptably, the classification to 1.6N would be possible for the system. According to the decision of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, the package type (ADR P101) does not exclude the possibility to classify the article as 1.6N.



#### **Current status**

The application was approved by the Finnish authority (Finnish Safety and Chemicals Agency) in April 2018, and the Blocker Influence Sea Mine is now classified as 1.6N

tukes		PARIS		1(2)
Scraffman ja tembashirante		11.4.2018		3359/37/2038
Oy Forcit Ab, Forcit Defence Pt. 19 10901 Hanko FINLANO				
Hakemuksenne 18.5.2018				
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	PM15-/BLOCKER-merimina			
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Thank you!

Questions?

