



# KS22a

## The Insensitive High Explosive for Hard Target Defeat Applications

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**What's Next? Breakthroughs in IM/EM Technology  
For the Next Generation of Weapons**

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Sheraton World Resort Orlando, Orlando, Florida  
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# TDW ... when the payload counts<sup>®</sup>

A large, 3D-rendered version of the "EADS" logo in a metallic, gold-colored font. It is set against a dark blue background with a map of Europe. A grey swoosh and a blue star are also visible, mirroring the logo in the top right corner.

*European Aeronautic, Defense and Space Company*

**TDW - Gesellschaft für verteidigungs-  
technische Wirksysteme mbH**

is the acknowledged „**Center of Excellence**“  
for **Lethal Packages / Warheads** within EADS

# KS22a - The Insensitive High Explosive for Hard Target Defeat Applications

## Overview

- ④ **What for?**  
**Current Applications of KS22a**
  
- ④ **Starting Point**  
**Basic Properties of KS22a**
  
- ④ **Sample Preparation**  
**Pre-Shocking of KS22a**
  
- ④ **Experimental Results**  
**Properties of Pre-Shocked KS22a**
  
- ④ **Conclusion**  
**Summary**

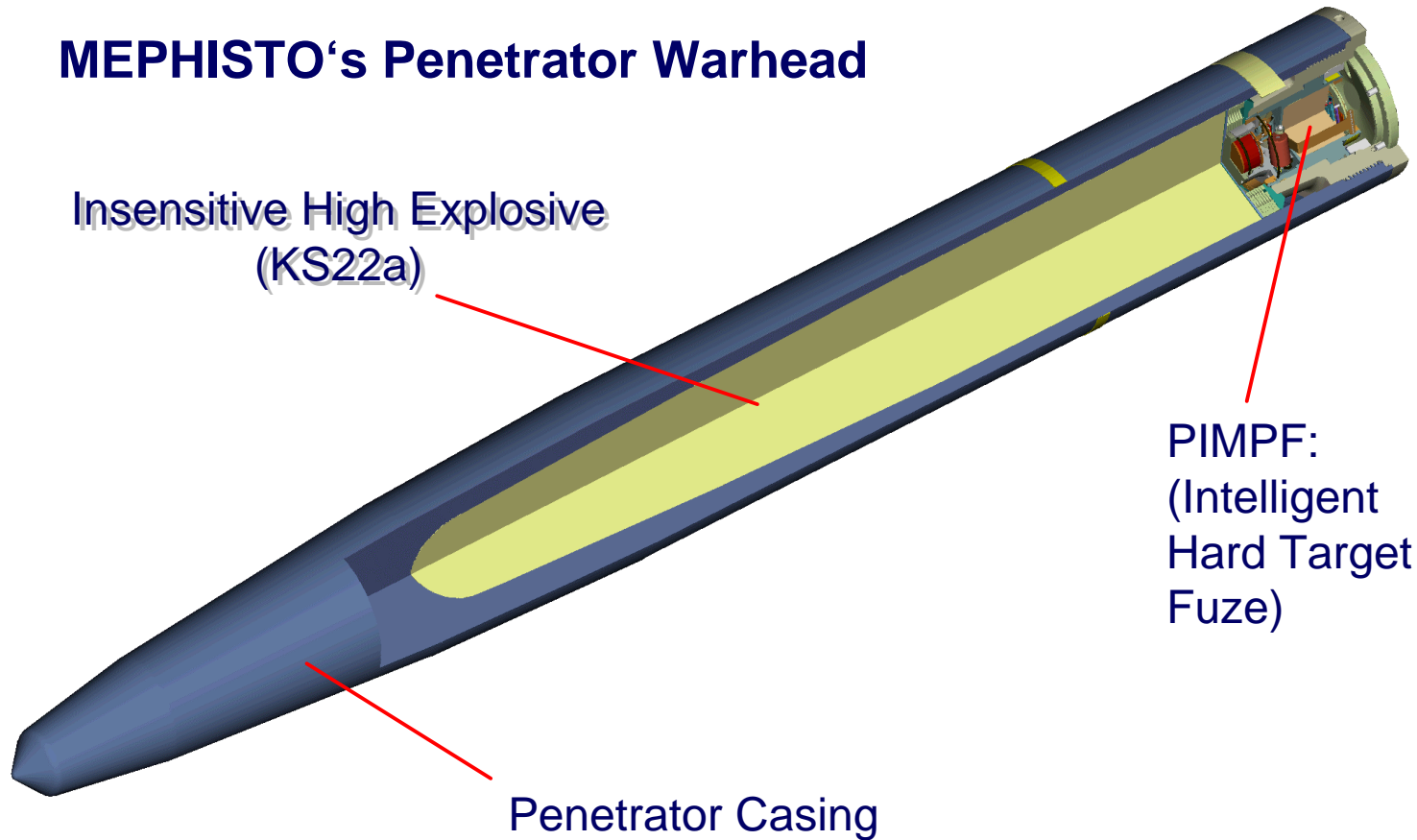
# 1. Current Applications of KS22a

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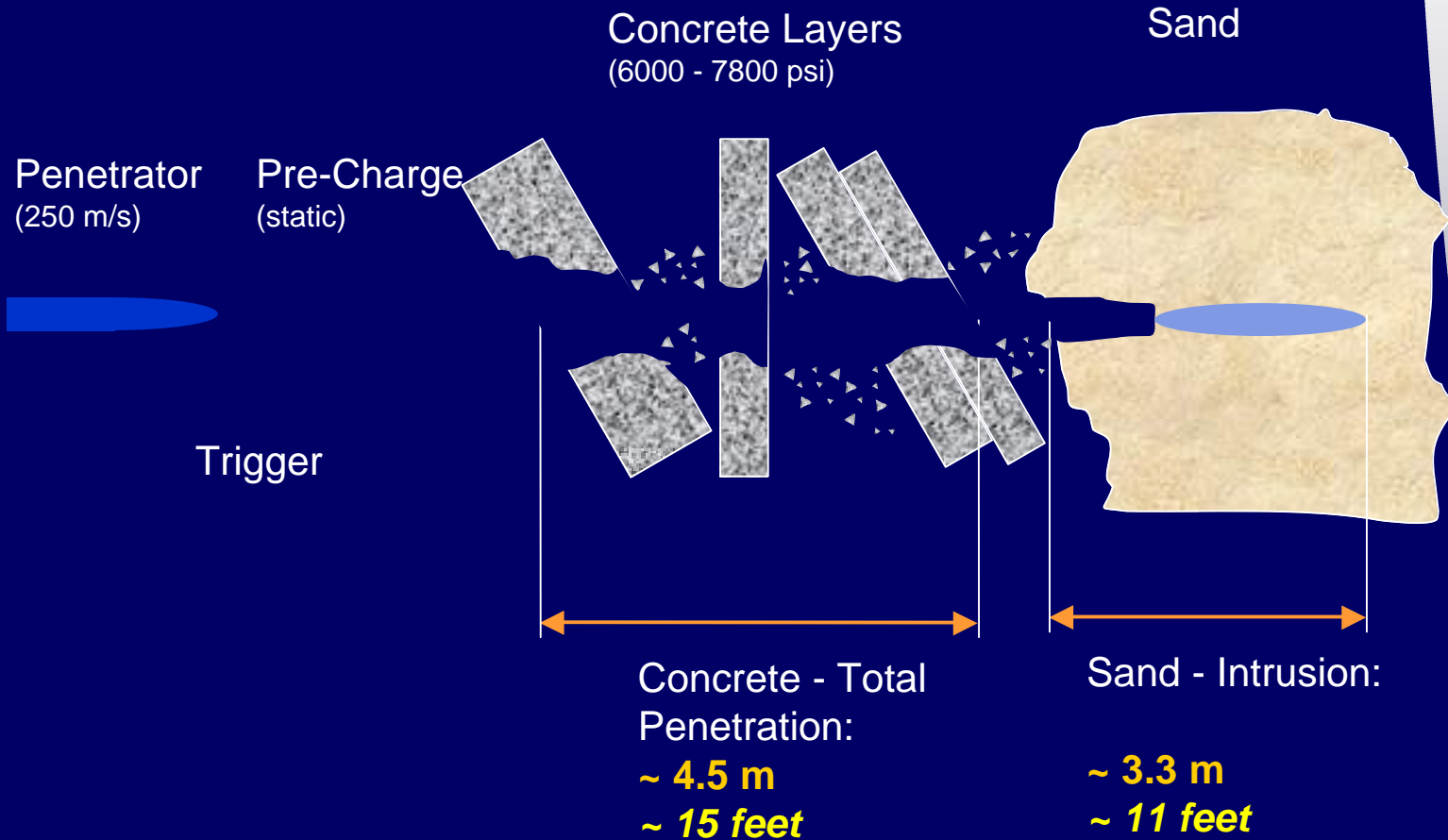
# German SOW MAW Taurus KEPD 350



## MEPHISTO's Penetrator Warhead

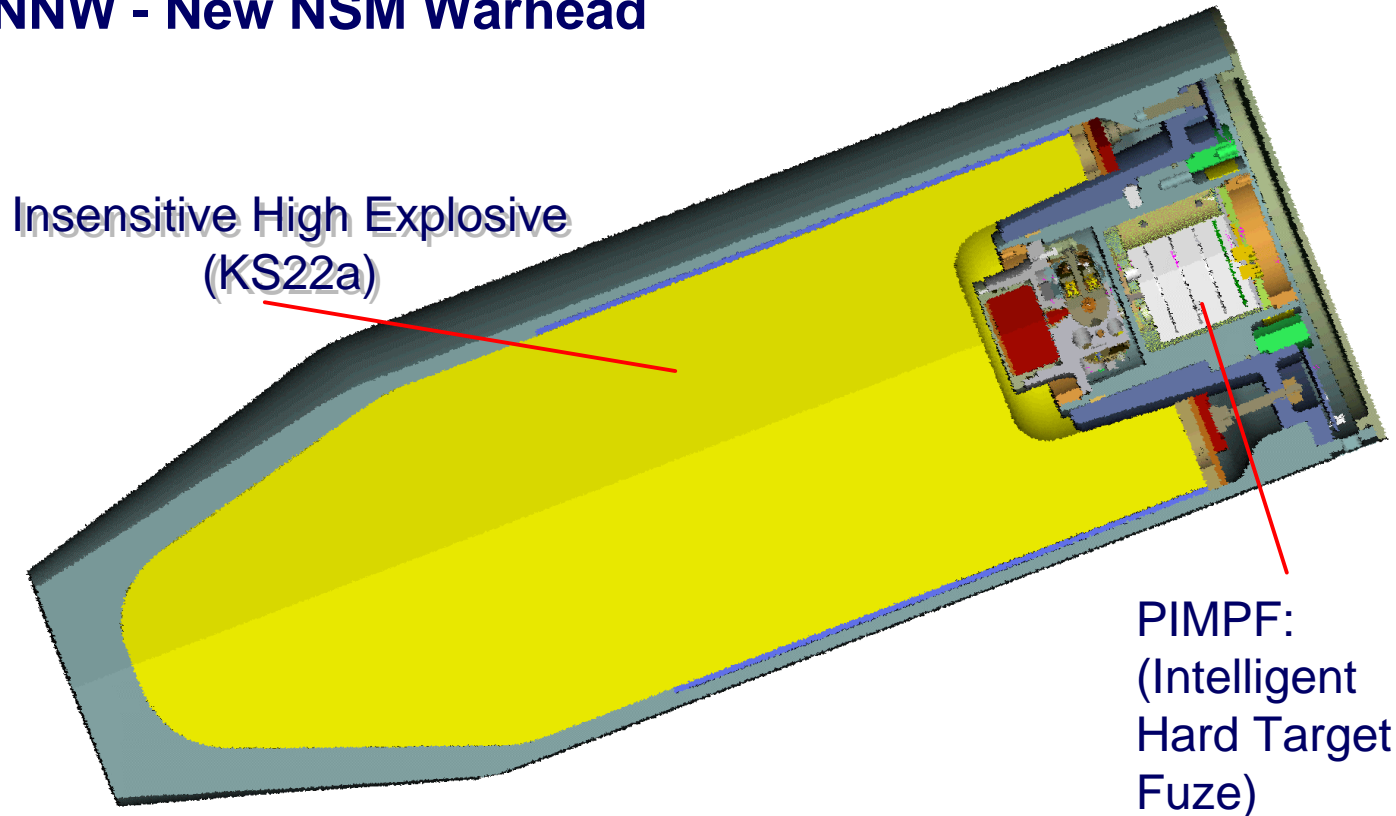


# Typical Penetrator Piercing Capability

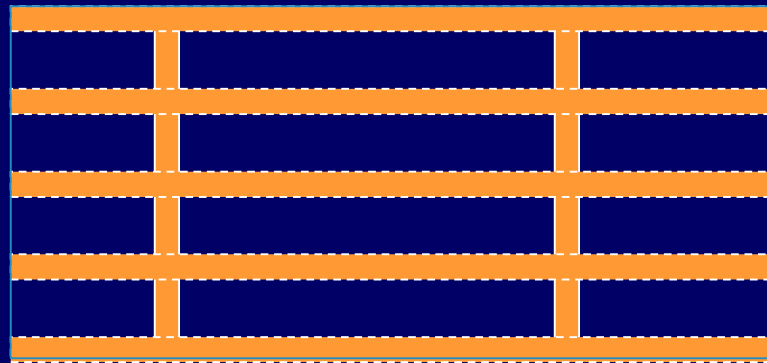


# Norwegian NSM (New Anti-Ship Missile)

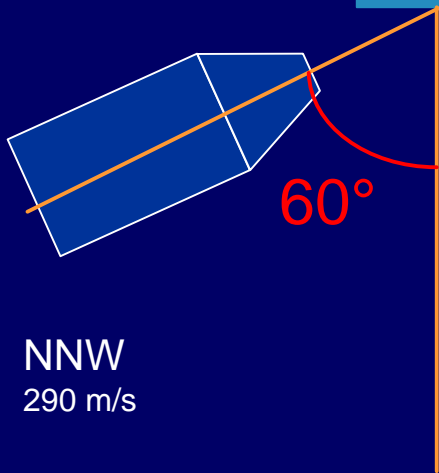
## NNW - New NSM Warhead



# NNW Piercing Capability



Steel Plate with ribs



NNW  
290 m/s



## 2. Basic Properties of KS22a

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- Gap Test                      *Initiation Ability / SDT Sensitivity*
- Plate Dent Test                *Metal Deformation Performance*
- Cylinder Test                  *Metal Acceleration Performance (JWL)*
- BKW (Thermochemical Code)  
    Simulations                    *pV-Diagram, Blast Performance*
- Critical Diameter                *Initiation Ability (Explosive Train Design)*

## Properties of KS22a compared to KS33

### *Starting Point:*

#### **KS33**

- Formulation: HMX / PB 90 / 10
- Density: 1.71 g/cc

### *Aluminum Additions for Blast Enhancement:*

#### **KS33 Derivatives**

- HMX / Al / PB 80 / 10 / 10, Density = 1.75 g/cc
- HMX / Al / PB 70 / 20 / 10, Density = 1.79 g/cc

### *Economic Compromise Solution for Penetrators:*

#### **KS22a**

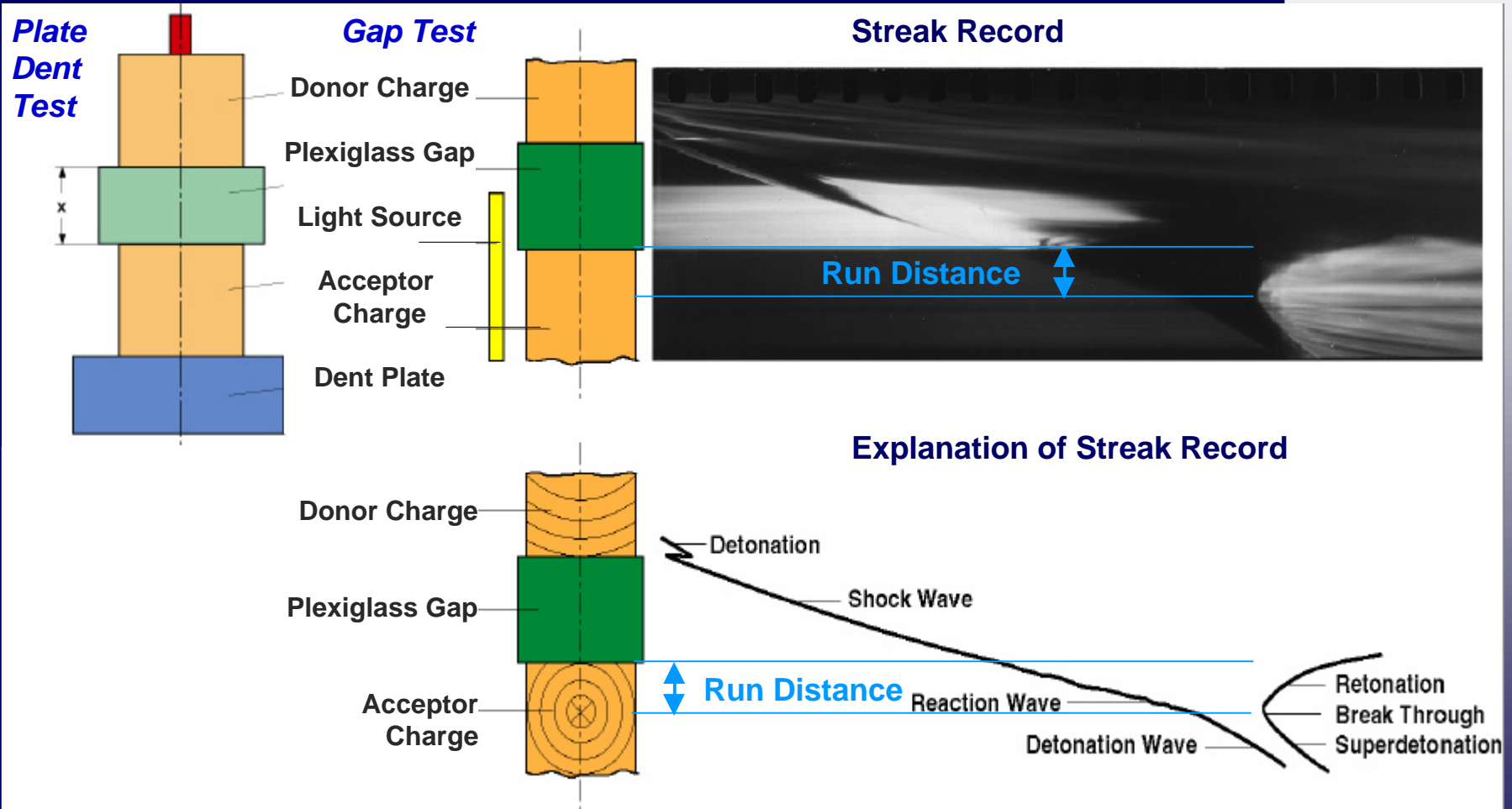
- Formulation: RDX / Al / PB 67 / 18 / 15
- Density: 1.64 g/cc

## 2. Basic Properties of KS22a

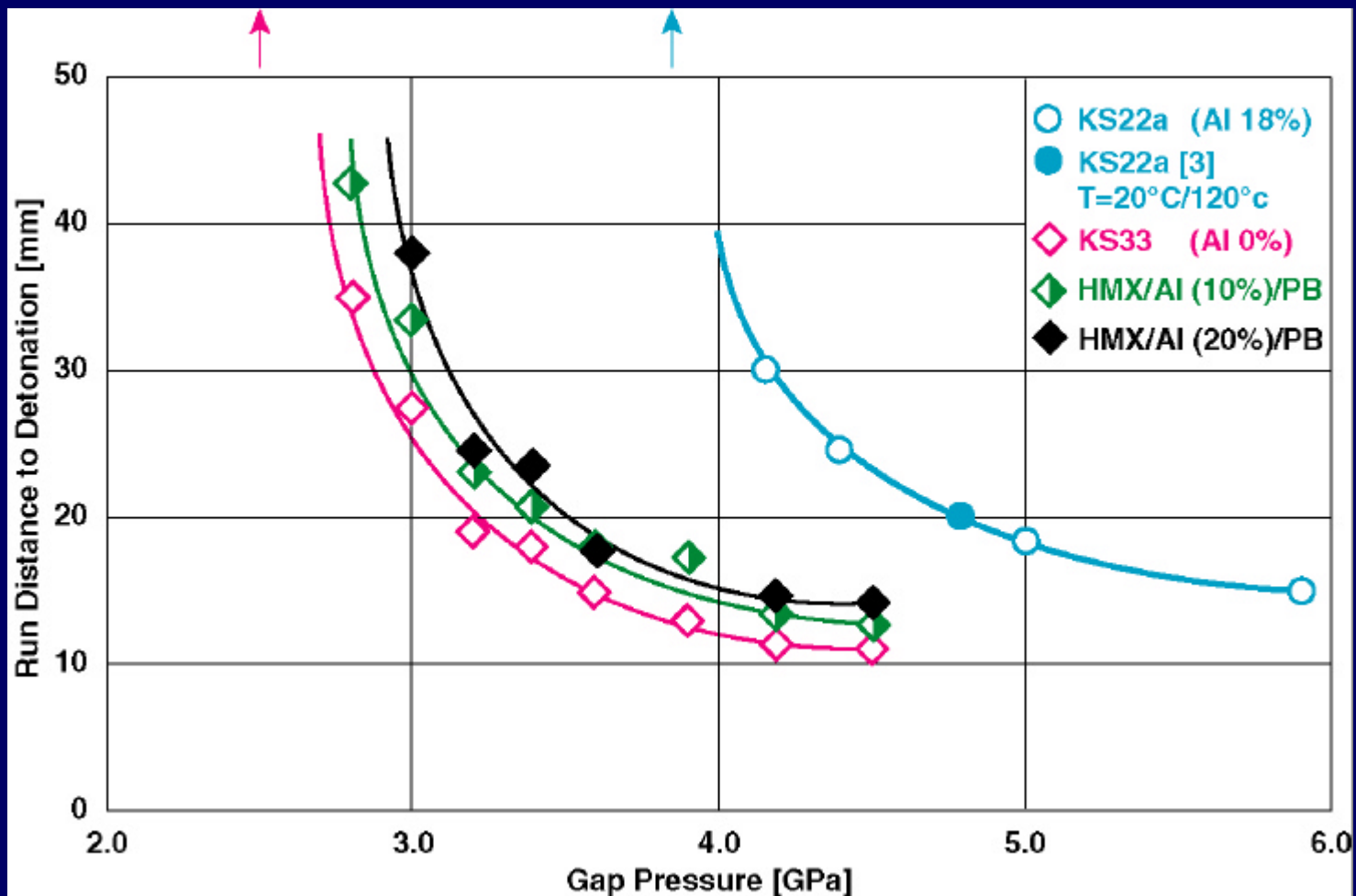
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- Gap Test                      *Initiation Ability / SDT Sensitivity*
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# TDW Gap Test: Run Distance to Detonation & Plate Dent Depth

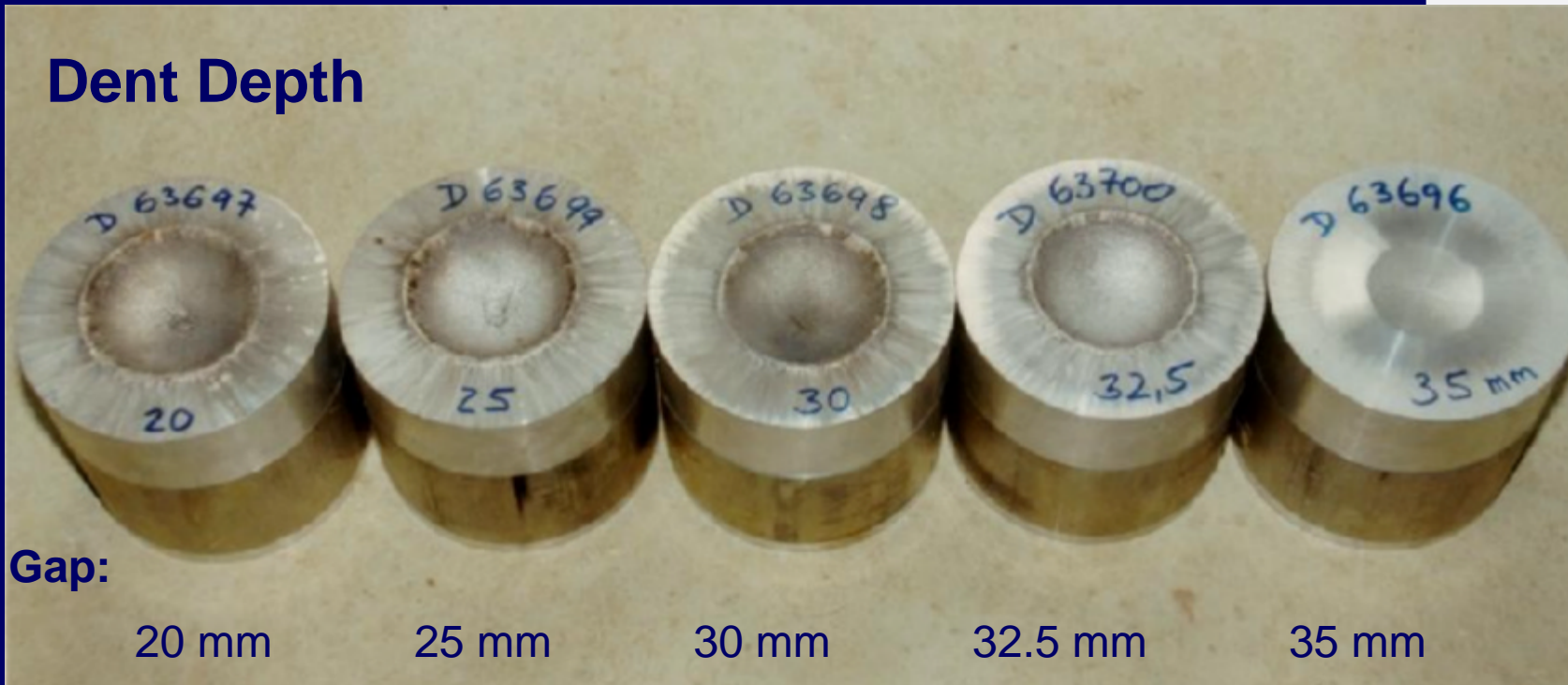


# TDW Gap Test: Run Distance to Detonation



# TDW Gap Test: Dents in Witness Plates

## Dent Depth



Gap:

20 mm

25 mm

30 mm

32.5 mm

35 mm

## Initiation Pressure:

$$P_{init} \text{ [kbar]} = 105 * \text{EXP}(-0,0358 * \text{Gap Thickness [mm]})$$

51 kbar  
5.1 GPa

43 kbar  
4.3 GPa

36 kbar  
3.6 GPa

33 kbar  
3.3 GPa

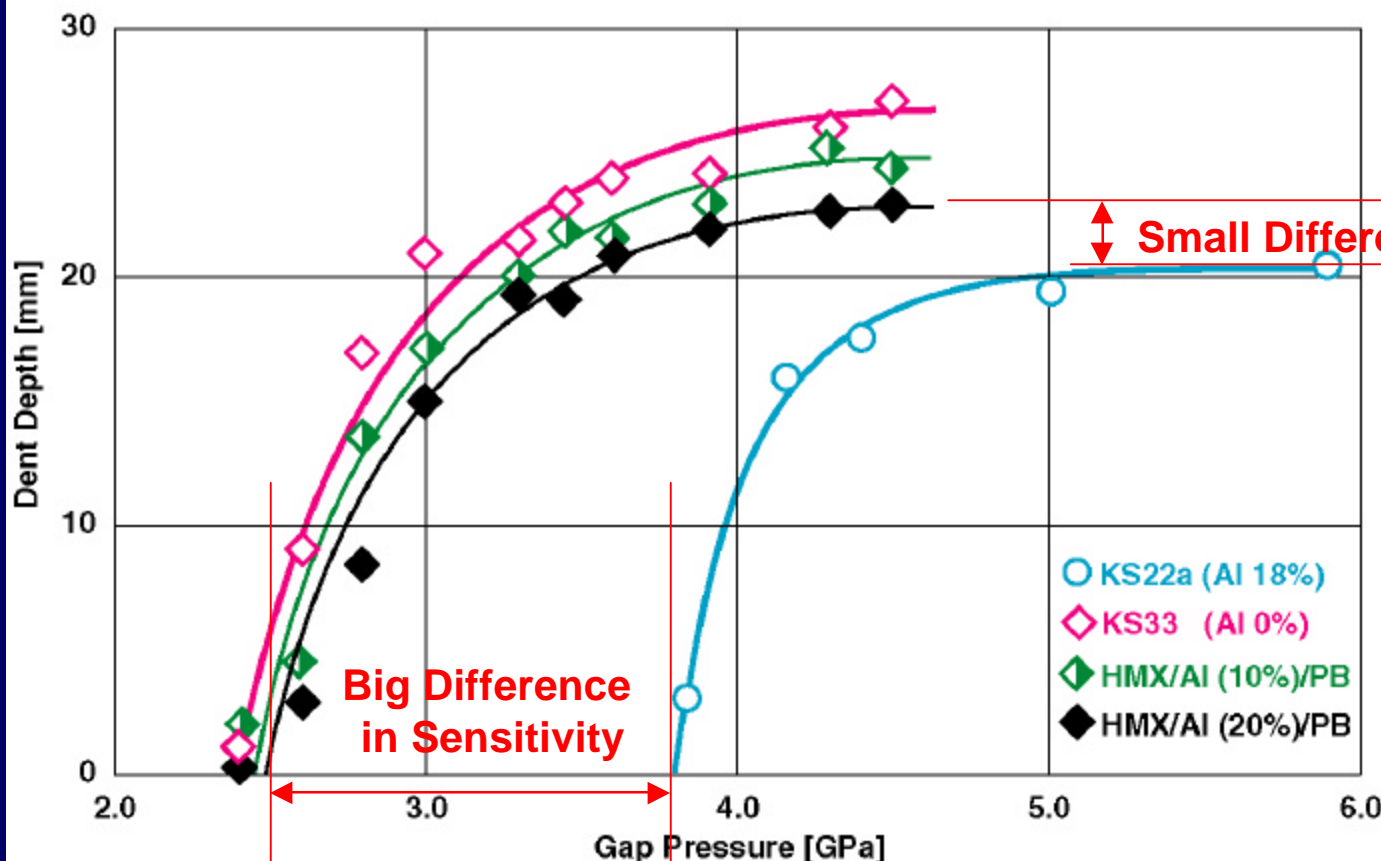
30 kbar  
3.0 GPa

# TDW Gap Test: Plate Dent Depth

## Gap - Test: Dent Depth

Penetrator: KS22a RDX / AI / PB 67/18/15

Pre-Charge: KS33 HMX / PB 90/10



### Results of Gap Test and Plate Dent Test:

KS22a Compromise  
low Sensitivity  
good Performance.

## 2. Basic Properties of KS22a

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- Gap Test                      *Initiation Ability / SDT Sensitivity*
- Plate Dent Test                *Metal Deformation Performance*
- Cylinder Test                  *Metal Acceleration Performance (JWL)*
- BKW (*Thermochemical Code*)  
    Simulations                  *pV-Diagram, Blast Performance*
- Critical Diameter              *Initiation Ability (Explosive Train Design)*



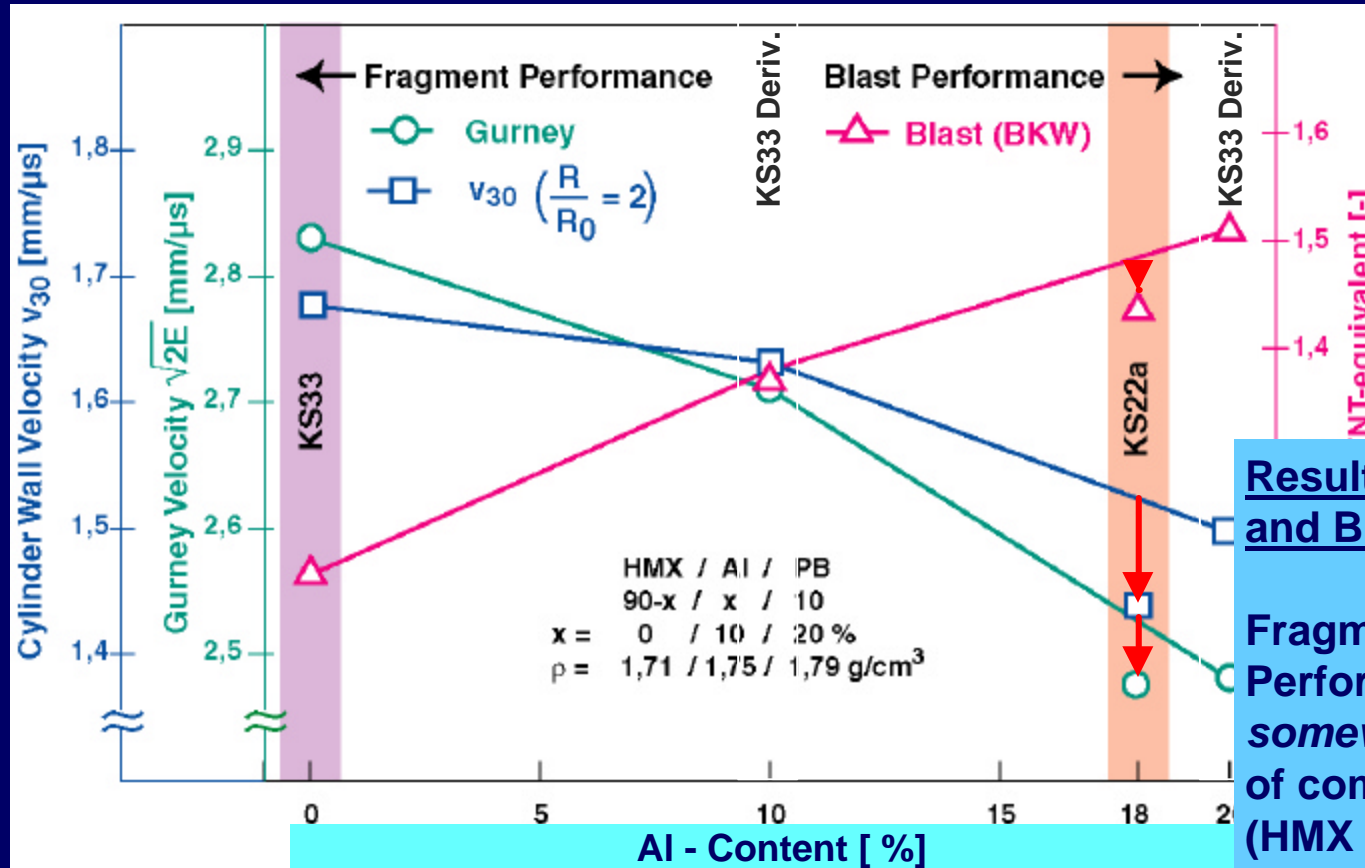
# Comparison: Fragmentation / Blast Performance

**KS33**  
0%Al  
HMX

**KS33D**  
10% Al  
HMX

**KS22a**  
18%Al  
RDX

**KS33D**  
20%Al  
HMX



**Results of Cylinder Test and BKW Simulations:**

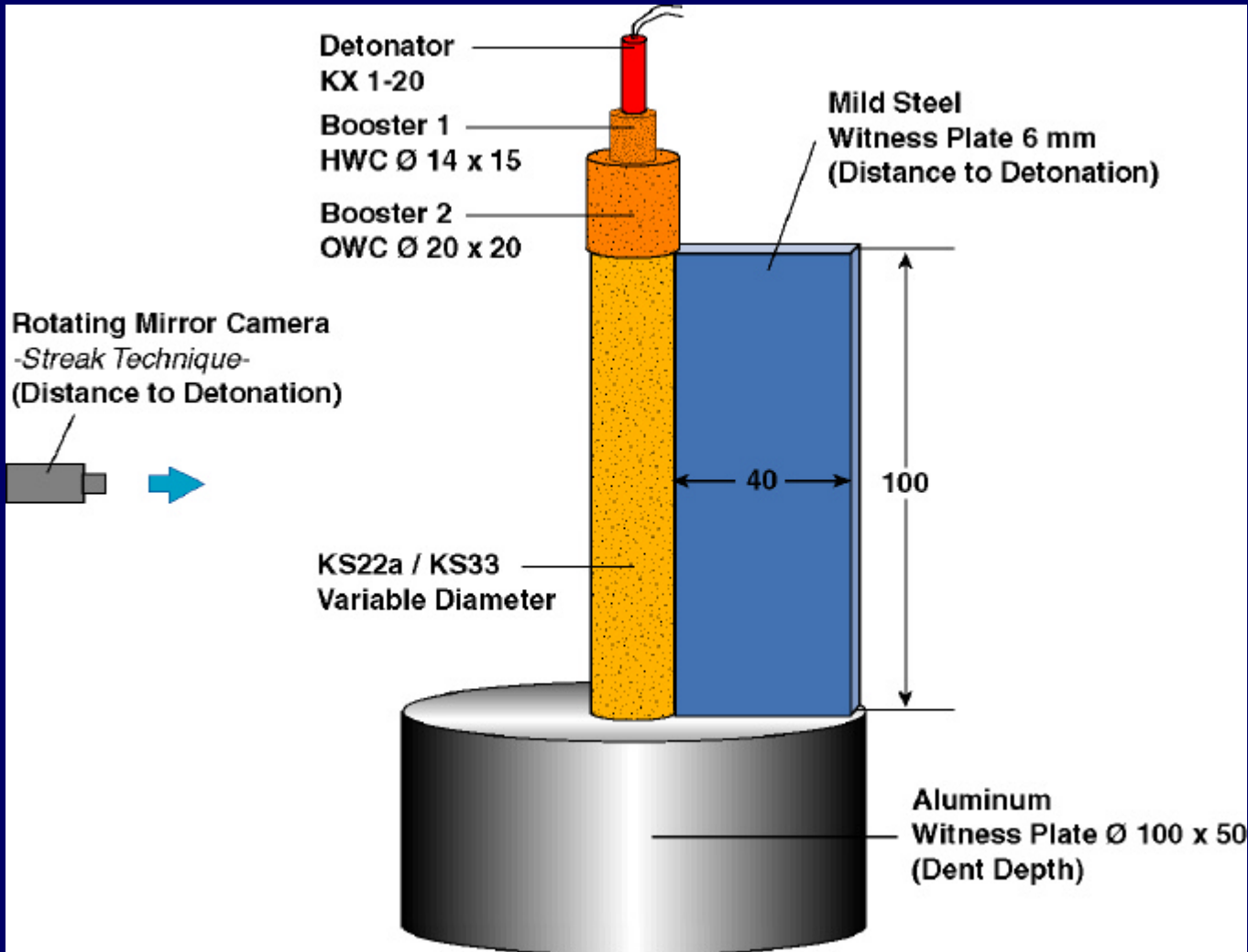
Fragmentation and Blast Performance of KS22a is *somewhat lower* than that of comparable KS33D-20%Al (HMX P RDX)

## 2. Basic Properties of KS22a

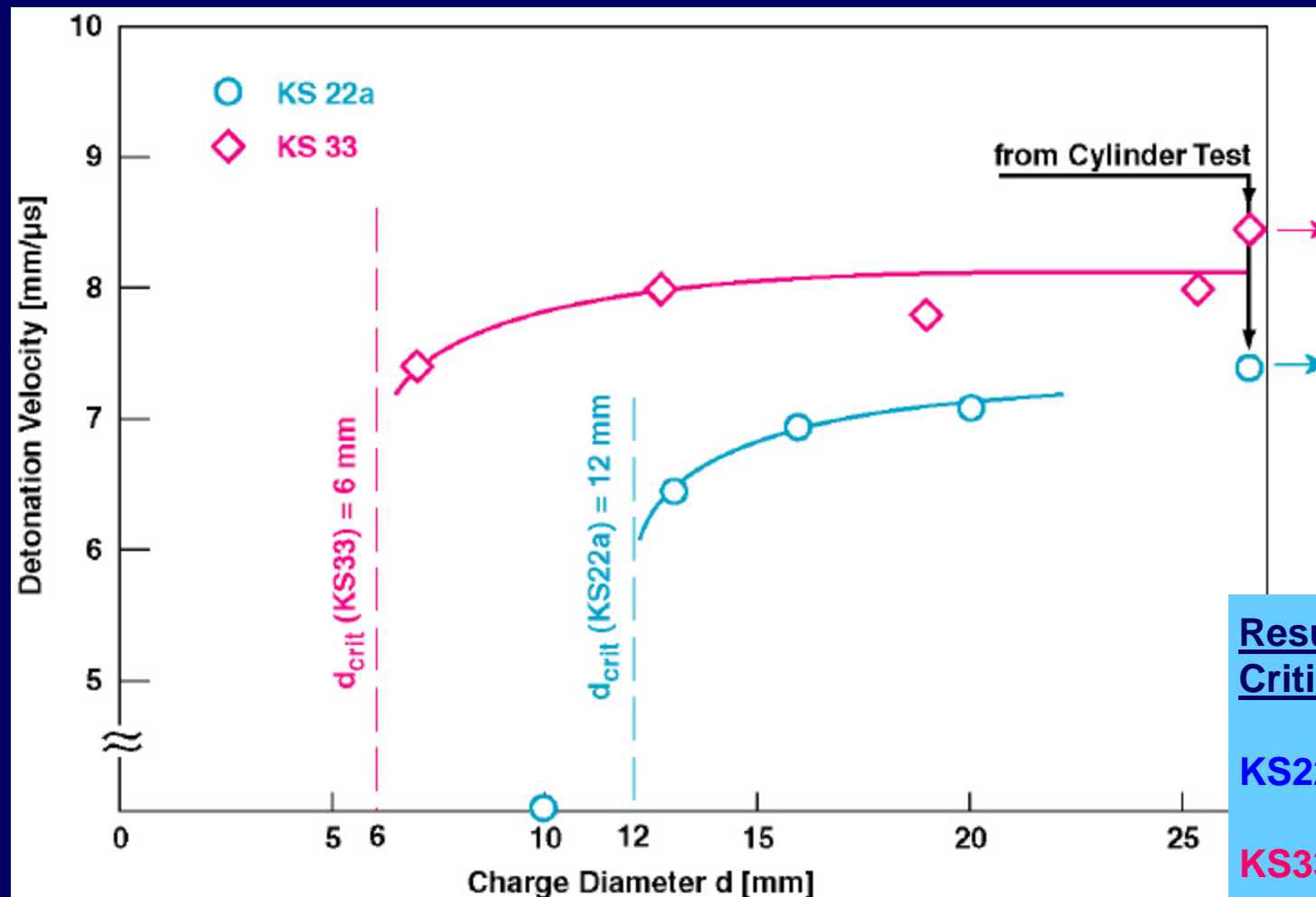
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Simulations                      *pV-Diagram, Blast Performance*
- Critical Diameter                *Initiation Ability (Explosive Train Design)*

# Test Set up: Critical Diameter



# Critical Diameter Test Results: KS33 & KS22a



**Results for  
Critical Diameter Tests:**

**KS22a: 12 mm**

**KS33: 6 mm**

### 3. Pre-Shocking of KS22a

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# Video-Clip: Live Test at Meppen Proving Ground



# Live Test: Lateral Impact on Concrete Target

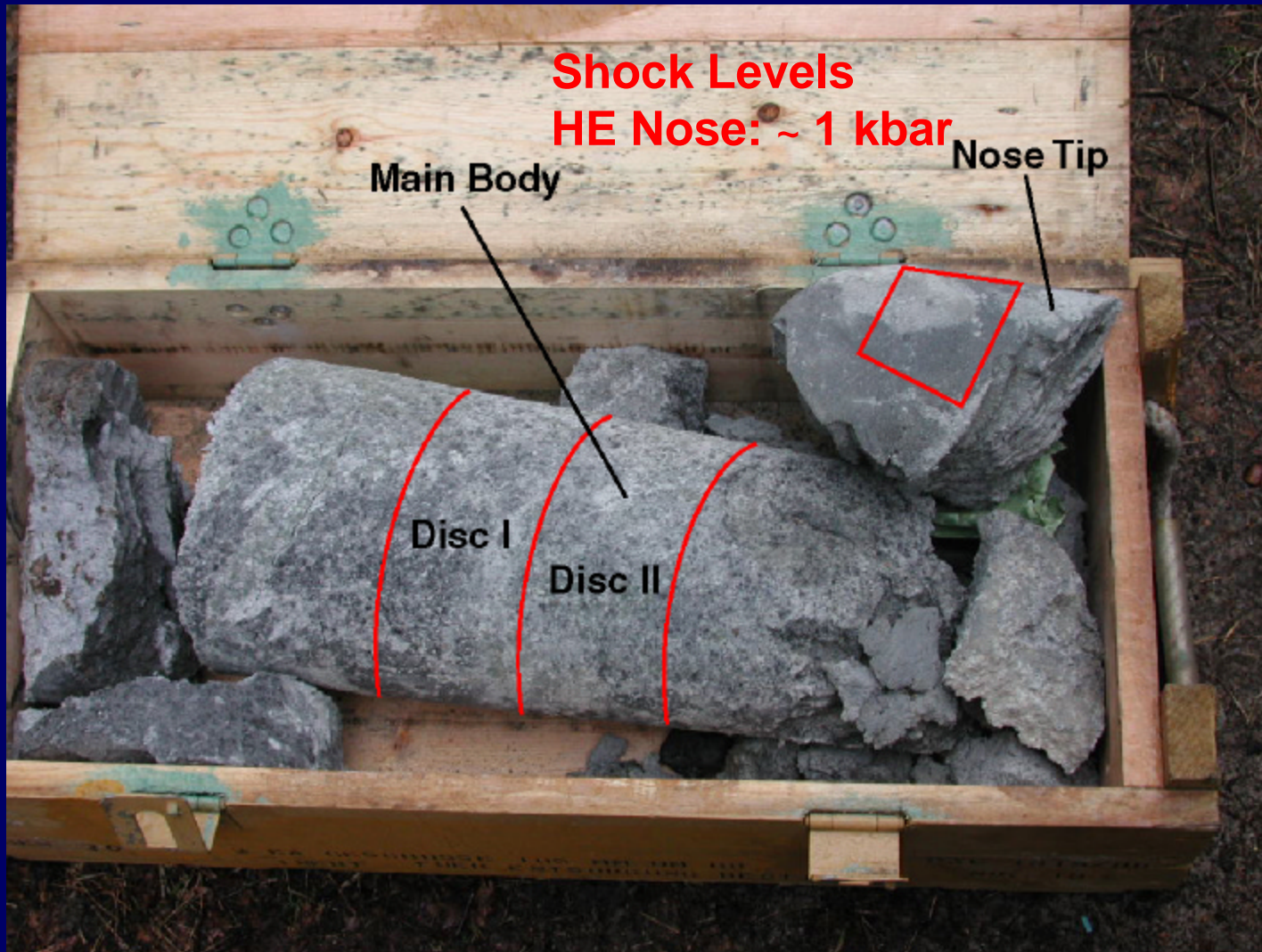


# Penetrator Casing Ripped Up





# Pre-Shocked KS22a IHE Recovered after Test

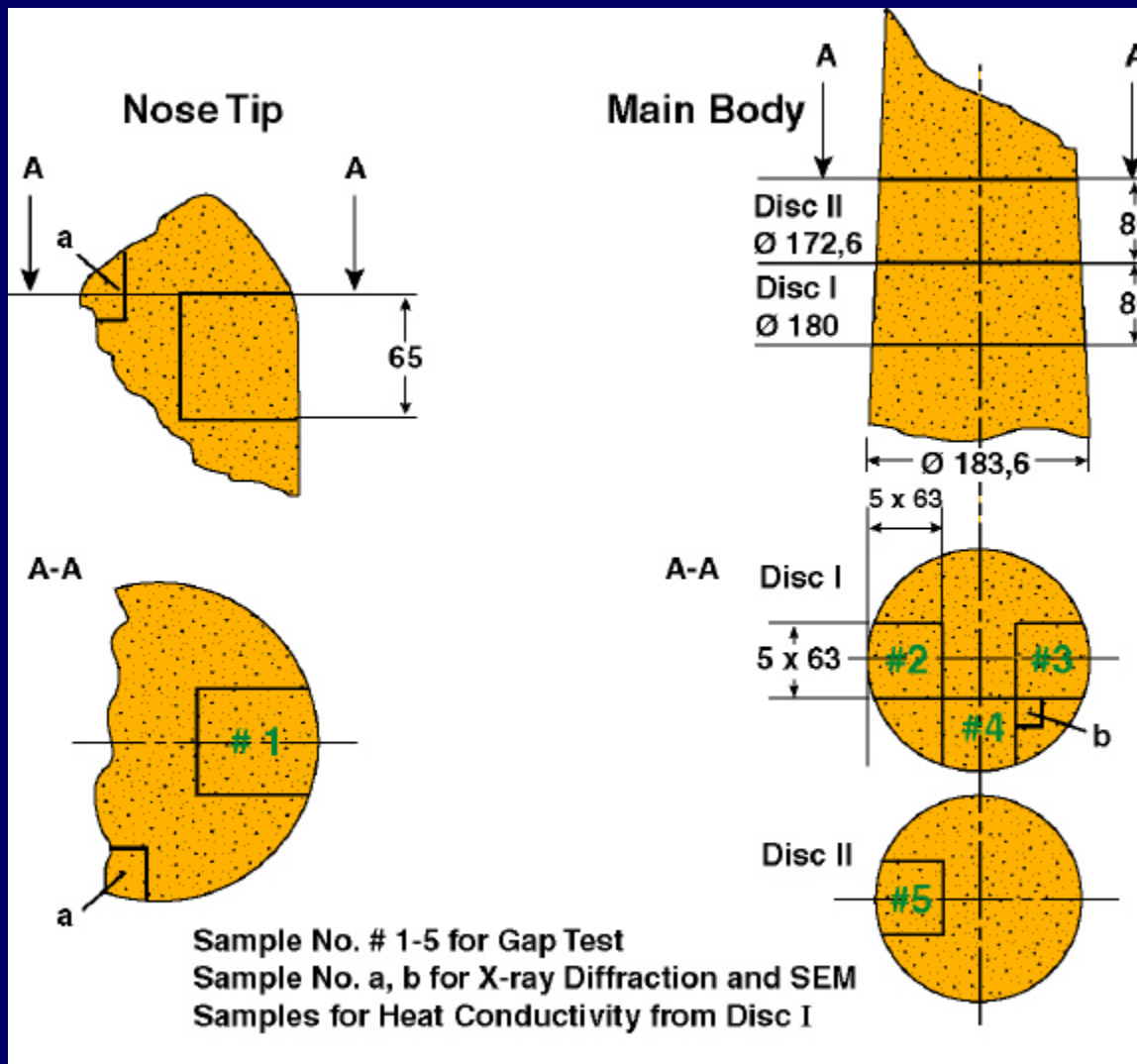


## 4. Properties of Pre-Shocked KS22a

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- Impact / Friction Sensitivity
- Gap Test / Plate Dent Test
- Optical Microscopy
- X-ray Diffraction
- Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)
- Heat Conductivity

# Pre-Shocked KS22a: Samples for Investigations

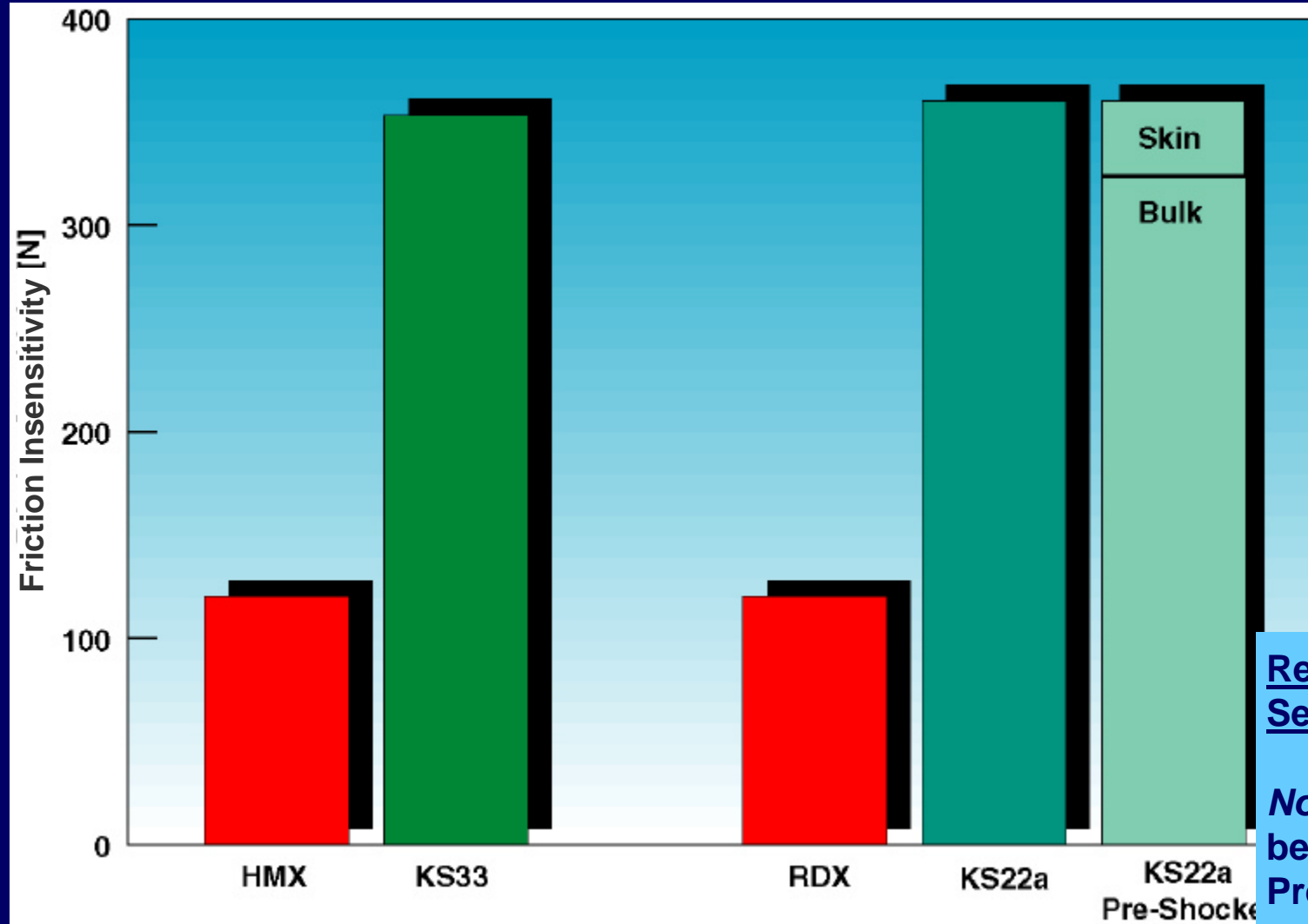


## 4. Properties of Pre-Shocked KS22a

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- Gap Test / Plate Dent Test
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- X-ray Diffraction
- Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)
- Heat Conductivity

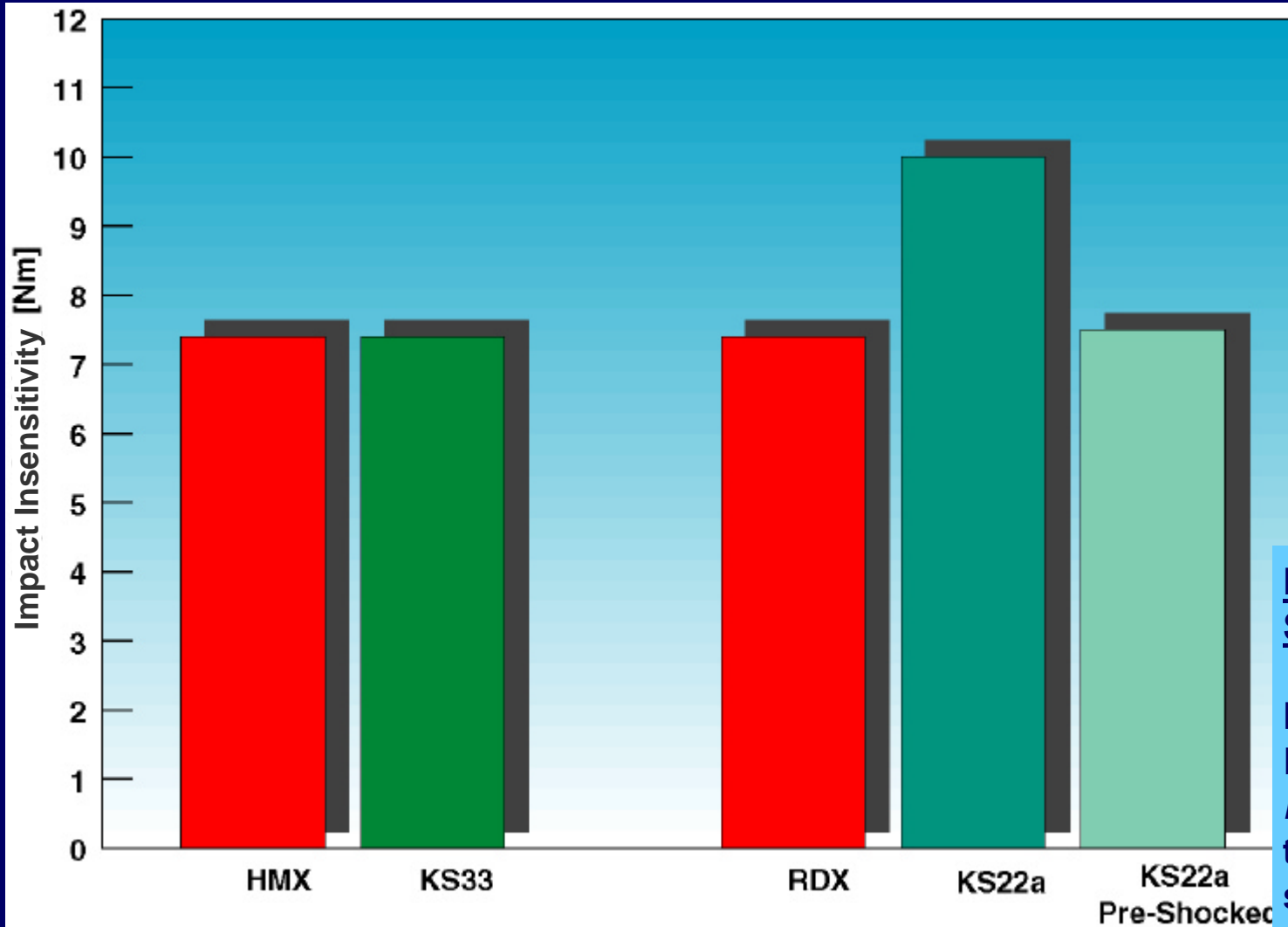
# Friction Sensitivity of KS33 and KS22a



Results for Friction Sensitivity Tests:

*No changes in behaviour due to Pre-Shocking*

# Impact Sensitivity of KS33 and KS22a



**Results for Impact Sensitivity Tests:**

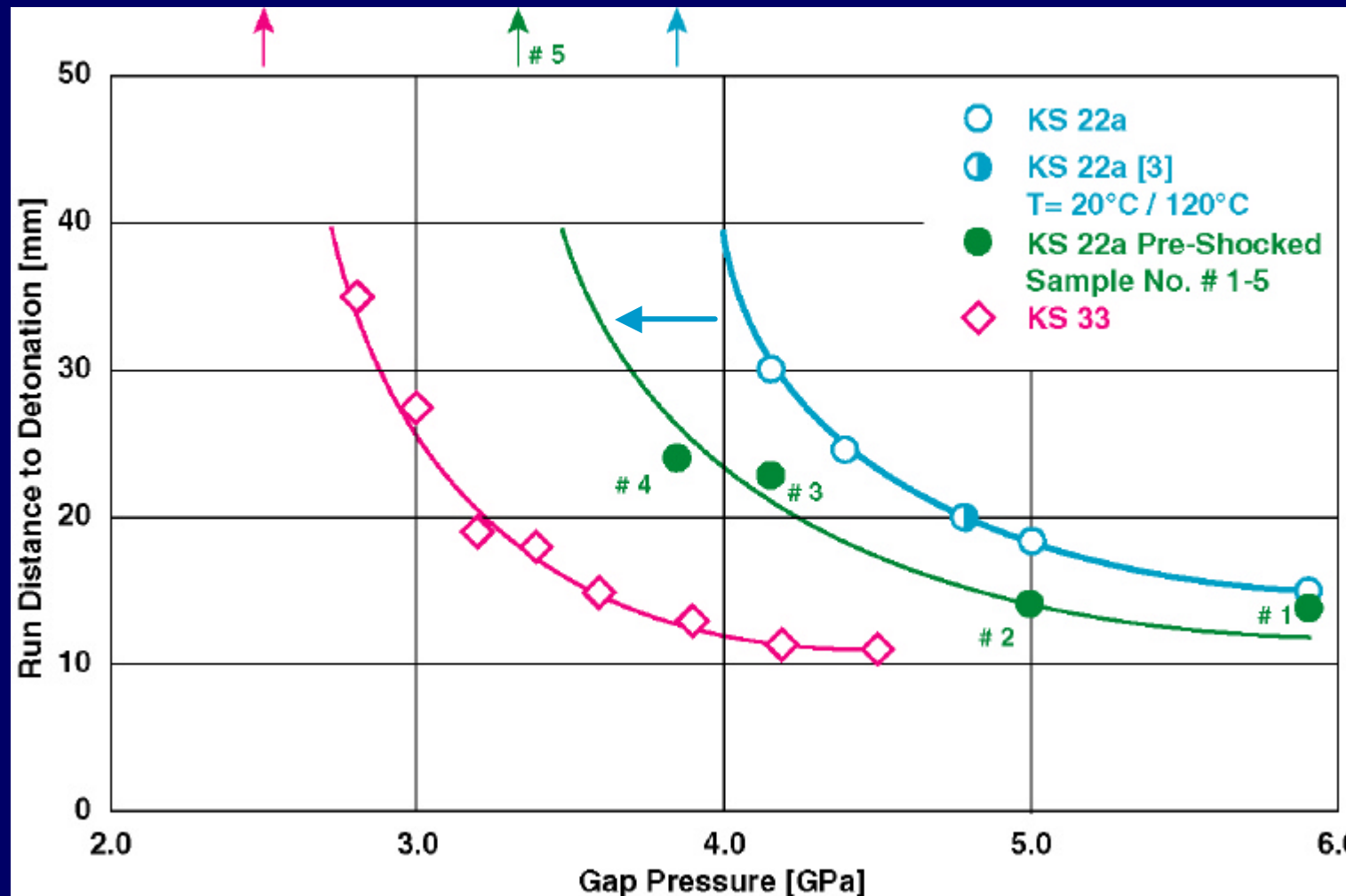
**Pre-Shocked KS22a a little more sensitive than untreated samples**

## 4. Properties of Pre-Shocked KS22a

---

- Impact / Friction Sensitivity
- Gap Test / Plate Dent Test
- Optical Microscopy
- X-ray Diffraction
- Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)
- Heat Conductivity

# Pre-Shocked KS22a: Run Distance to Detonation

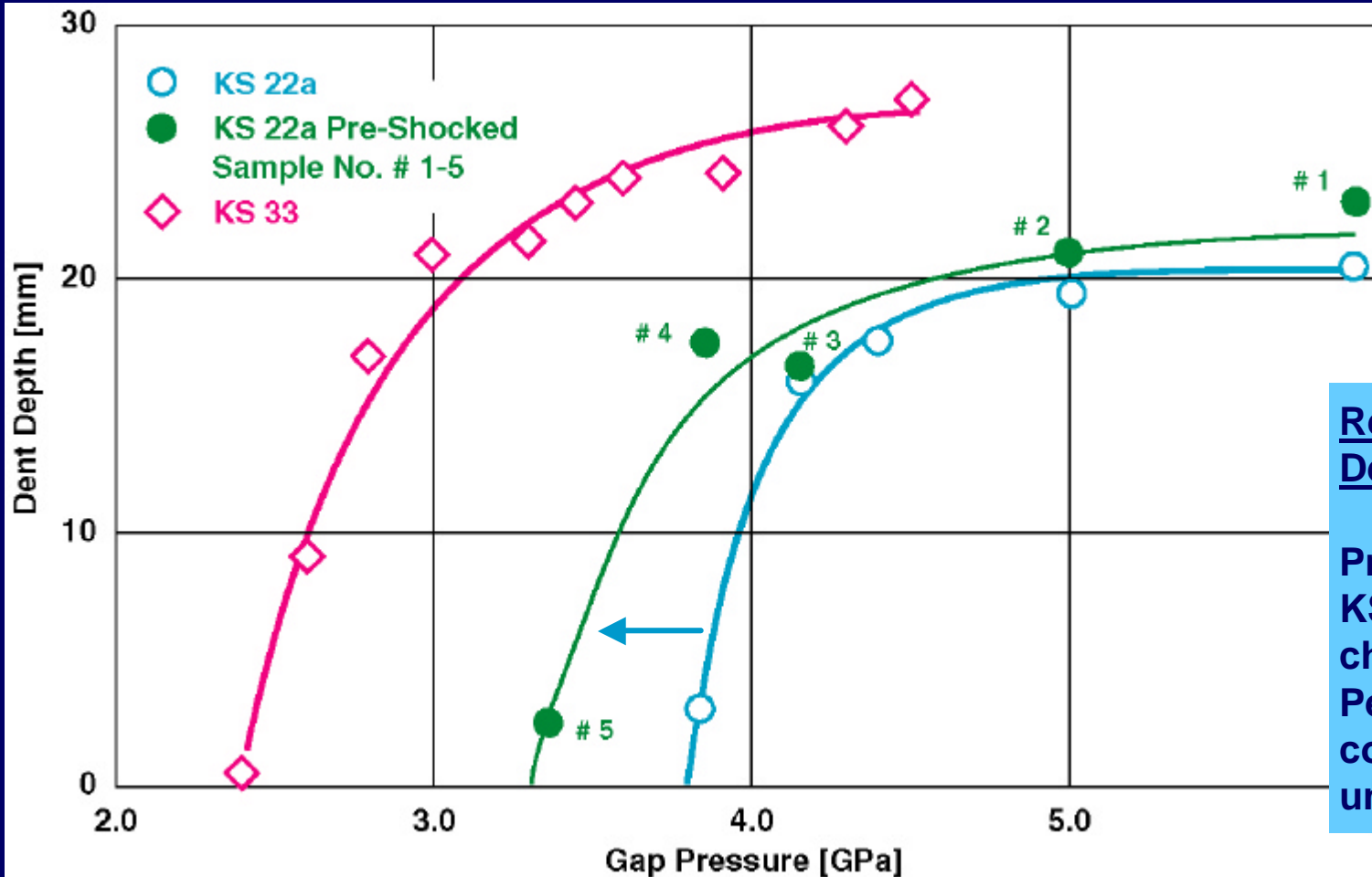


**Results for Run Distance Tests:**

Pre-Shocked KS22a a little *more sensitive* than untreated samples



# Pre-Shocked KS22a: Plate Dent Depth



Results for Plate Dent Tests:

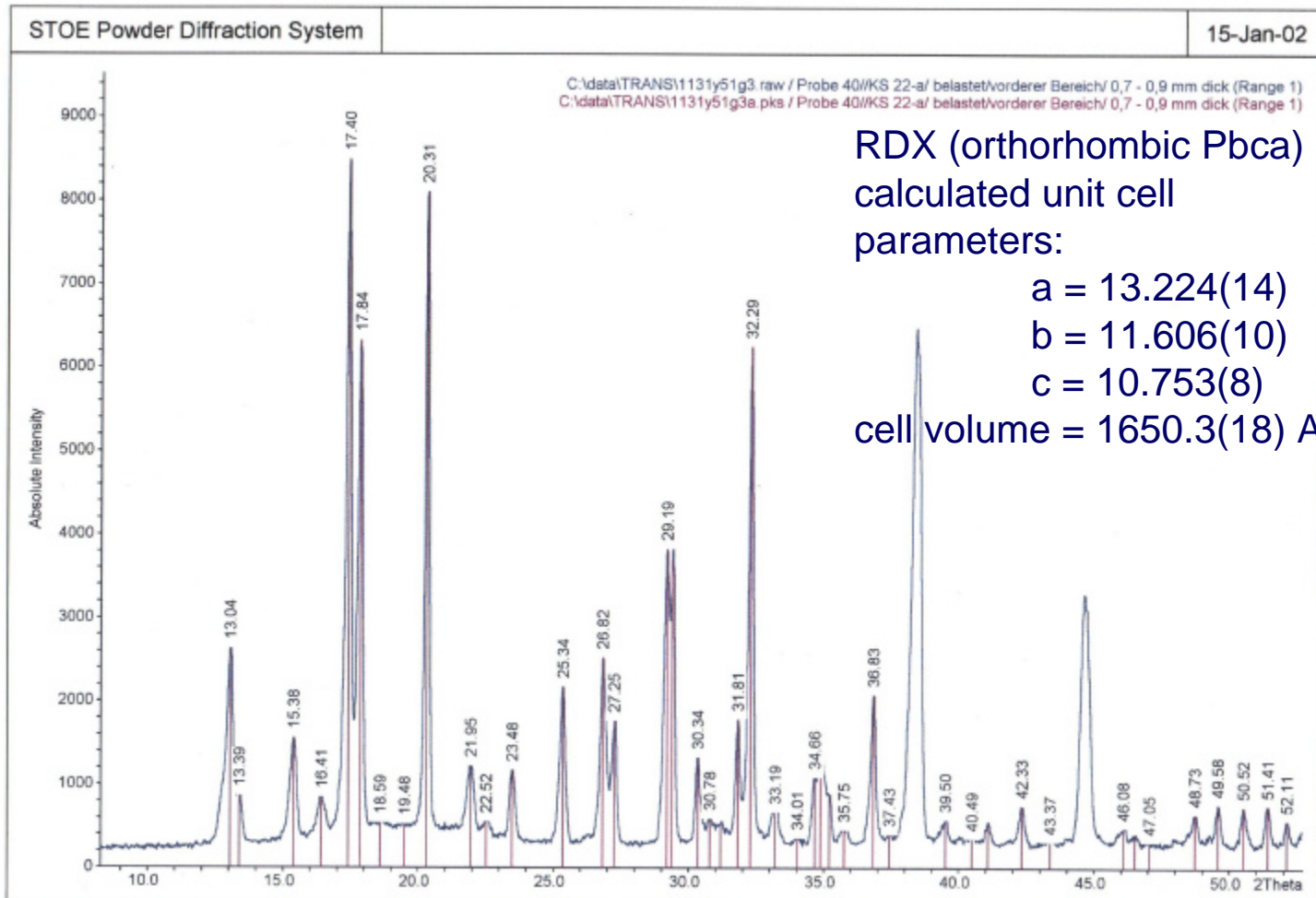
Pre-Shocked KS22a shows no change in Performance compared to untreated samples

## 4. Properties of Pre-Shocked KS22a

---

- Impact / Friction Sensitivity
- Gap Test / Plate Dent Test
- Optical Microscopy
- X-ray Diffraction
- Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)
- Heat Conductivity

# Pre-Shocked KS22a: X-Ray Diffraction (Nose Tip)



RDX (orthorhombic Pbca)  
calculated unit cell  
parameters:

$$a = 13.224(14)$$

$$b = 11.606(10)$$

$$c = 10.753(8)$$

$$\text{cell volume} = 1650.3(18) \text{ \AA}^3$$

## Results for X-Ray Diffraction Tests:

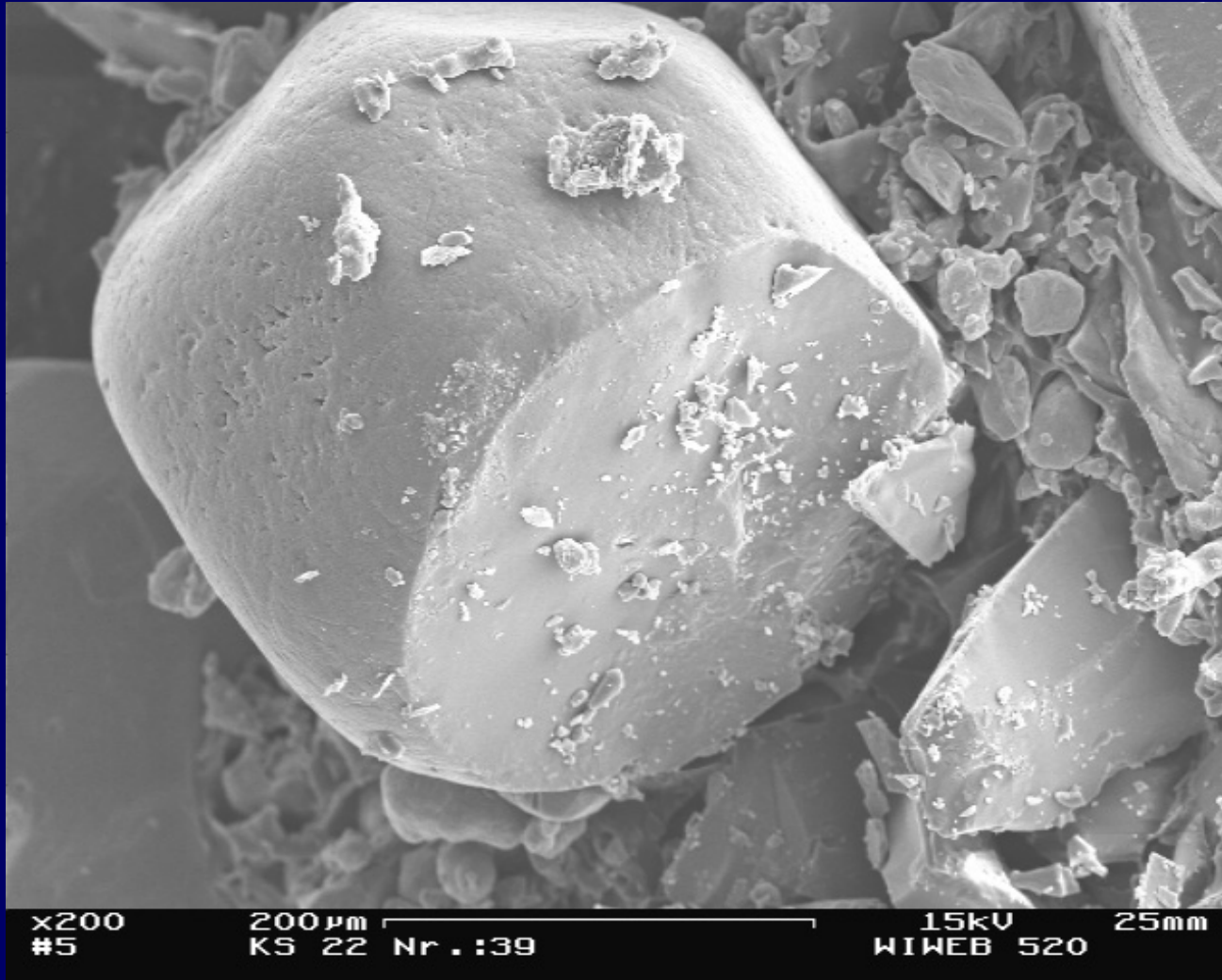
***No changes in  
cell volume  
and structure due  
to Pre-Shocking***

## 4. Properties of Pre-Shocked KS22a

---

- Impact / Friction Sensitivity
- Gap Test / Plate Dent Test
- Optical Microscopy
- X-ray Diffraction
- Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)
- Heat Conductivity

# Pre-Shocked KS22a: SEM Test (Nose Tip)



## Results of SEM Tests:

*No changes in behaviour due to Pre-Shocking*

## 4. Properties of Pre-Shocked KS22a

---

- Impact / Friction Sensitivity
- Gap Test / Plate Dent Test
- Optical Microscopy
- X-ray Diffraction
- Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)
- Heat Conductivity

# Heat Conductivity

## No Significant Changes in Heat Conductivity Parameters

### Conclusion:

- No Extra Pores Produced
- No Cracks Produced
- No Relevant Microstructural Damage
- ...

## 5. Summary

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## Conclusions

### **KS22a - The Insensitive High Explosive for Hard Target Defeat Applications**

**KS22a is well suited for Hard Target Defeat Applications:**

- High Blast & Fragmentation Performance
- Low Sensitivity
- Survives High Shock Loads
- No Relevant Microstructural Damage
- Only Minor Increase of Sensitivity due to Shock Loads