



**IR** | 7.62  
Infrared Tracer  
SMALL ARMS AMMUNITION

# **DIM TRACER (IR)**

**2010**  
MAY 19

## **AMMUNITION**

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## DEVELOPMENT OF **NAMMO IR-Dim Tracer**

- Nammo Vanäsverken AB started to study the IR - Dim Tracer concept in the middle of the 90:ies when Night Vision Devices had become more available.
- The design targets for the 5.56 mm round were;
  - IR-emission near to visible IR (NIR) 0.7-0.8  $\mu\text{m}$
  - IR trace distance at least 600 meters (>1.5 sek)
  - Full performance in temperatures -54°C to +52°C
  - Reduced muzzle flash/signature
  - Meeting applicable STANAG and MOPI requirements
- In addition;
  - Suitable for mass production with existing equipment
  - Compatible with standard tracer cartridge components and existing tracer ignition composition without shelf life deterioration

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## DEVELOPMENT OF **NAMMO IR-Dim Tracer**

### - COMPOSITION

- A pyrotechnical solution was the preferred choice to meet the design requirements.
- The first concept was based on a Boron/Potassium composition
  - Emissions of visible light
  - Short IR trace
  - Halo effect in Night Vision Devices

This type of composition are used in IR flares when you need a lot of IR radiation for illumination of greater areas.

- The second concept was based on a Oxide/Resin composition
  - The selected IR composition meet all design requirements and with some improvements exceeded the design requirements in respect to low level of visible emissions and trace distance.

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# QUALIFICATION

## OF SELECTED IR COMPOSITION

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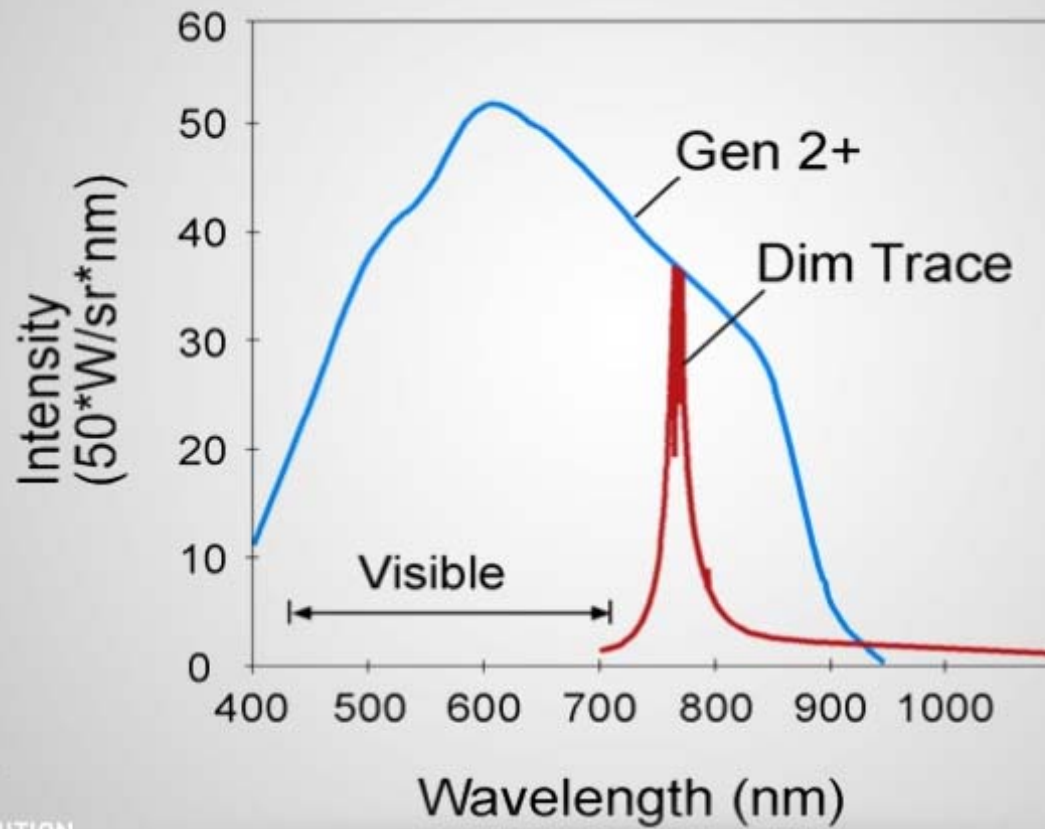
- The selected IR-Dim Tracer composition has been thoroughly scrutinised with respect to;
  - Stability and compatibility with other cartridge components.
  - Electrostatic spark, chock and friction testing.
  - Resulting in the IR composition is considered to be non explosive.
  - Ignition temperature and differential scanning calorimetry
  - 5.56x45 Dim Tracer 4 qualified by US Navy Mod. Mk301

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# IR - DIM TRACE

EMISSION & NVD SENSITIVITY



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# IR - DIM TRACER

## PROPERTIES

2010

- General cartridge requirements based on respective STANAG 4172 for 5.56 mm and 2310 for 7.62 mm
- Minimal emission in visible spectrum
- Main emission near to visible IR (NIR) with wavelength 0.7-0.8 nm
- Minimal muzzle flash
- Trace distance with Gen 2+ NVD
  - 5.56 mm – Min 600 m Average 750 m
  - 7.62 mm – Min 775 m Average 1000 m
- Fully ignited IR trace from 50 m

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# IR - DIM TRACER

## ADVANTAGES v. CONVENTIONAL TRACER

- Dim Tracer
  - Opening of fire – Surprise effect
  - Target location – Also after opening of fire
  - Minimal disturbance – Own observers
  - Minimal exposure – Own unit
- Conventional Tracer
  - Muzzle flash
  - "Fireballs" at the target
  - Illumination backwards
  - Tracer light track
- Resulting in
  - Lower hit probability
  - Exposure of own unit

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IR - DIM TRACER

STANDARD TRACER

**VS**



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STANDARD TRACER vs DIM TRACER  
[ Gen III NVD ]

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TRACER TRACKING

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DIM [IR] TRACER

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STANDARD TRACER

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IR TRACER

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# 7.62 IR - DIM TRACER

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1 facts 2 facts 3 zoom

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inch 1/24



inch 1/31



- 1 facts
- 2 facts
- 3 zoom



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- 1 facts
- 2 facts
- 3 zoom

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## NEW IR -TRACER PROGRAMS

- 5.56x45 mm IR Tracer: Qualified as Mk 301. [ In production ]
- 7.62x51 mm IR Tracer [ In production ]
- .50cal [ In production ]
- Development of 5.56 mm and 7.62 mm Reduced Range IR-Dim Tracer [ Design and Qualification during 2010 ]
- Development of 9 mm IR-Dim Tracer [ Study ]
- Development of 4.6 mm IR-Dim Tracer [ Study ]

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