

GENERAL DYNAMICS

Armament and Technical Products

**A new machine gun - the right weapon
for today's environment**

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Identified Problem

- 2009 GDATP identified some key deficiencies in current war fighter technology
 - Lack of range and/or lethality in current selection man portable weapon systems.
 - Providing range and lethality requires significant overburden to the war fighter with the current selection of heavier weapons.
- Can we do better for the war fighter?

GDATP started an IR&D initiative to understand and develop a technology that would greatly benefit the war fighter

Identified Problem Confirmed

- In December 2011, 7 major items identified as problems that Army Science and Technology must help solve.
- Items 2,5 and 6
- Overburden
- Tactical Overmatch
- Maneuverability



Big Army Problems that S&T Must Help Solve Current focus: "Soldier as the Decisive Edge"



1. There is insufficient **FORCE PROTECTION** to ensure highest degree of survivability across the spectrum of operations.
2. **Soldiers in Small Units (squads/fire teams/crews) are OVERBURDENED** (physically and cognitively); this degrades performance and may result in immediate, as well as, long term consequences.
3. U.S. Army squads are too often **SURPRISED** in tactical situations. Soldiers in Small Units lack sufficient timely **MISSION COMMAND & TACTICAL INTELLIGENCE** to understand where their assets are, who and where the enemy is, who and where non-combatants are and to document and communicate this information to each other and higher echelons.
4. We spend too much time and money on **STORING, TRANSPORTING, DISTRIBUTING and WASTE HANDLING** of consumables (water, fuel, power, ammo and food) to field elements, creating **exposure risks and opportunities** for operational disruption.
5. Soldiers in Small Units have limited capability to integrate maneuver and fires in all environments to create **TACTICAL OVERMATCH** necessary to achieve mission objectives.
6. Operational **MANEUVERABILITY** (dismounted & mounted) is difficult to achieve in complex, **astere, and harsh terrains** and at high OPTEMPO.
7. We do not understand **WHAT MAKES THE HUMAN TICK** in a way that can lead to assured ability to perform operational, high OPTEMPO missions effectively and without secondary negative effects.

Problems listed in no particular order—validated by Senior Army Leadership

DESIGN • DEVELOP • DELIVER • DOMINATE
SOLDIER AS THE DECISIVE EDGE

OPERATIONAL 2011

ARMY S&T
STRATEGY 2011

GAP Analysis

CURRENT STATE: EXISTING SOLDIER CARRIED WEAPONS RESTRICT MAXIMUM EFFECTIVE RANGE OR RESTRICTIVE WEIGHT

Caliber	Maximum Effective Range	System Weight + 100 Rounds
7.62 NATO (M80)	M240B 800m (A) M240L 600m(A)	M240B = 33.6 lbs M240L = 28.5 lbs Man Portable

GAP

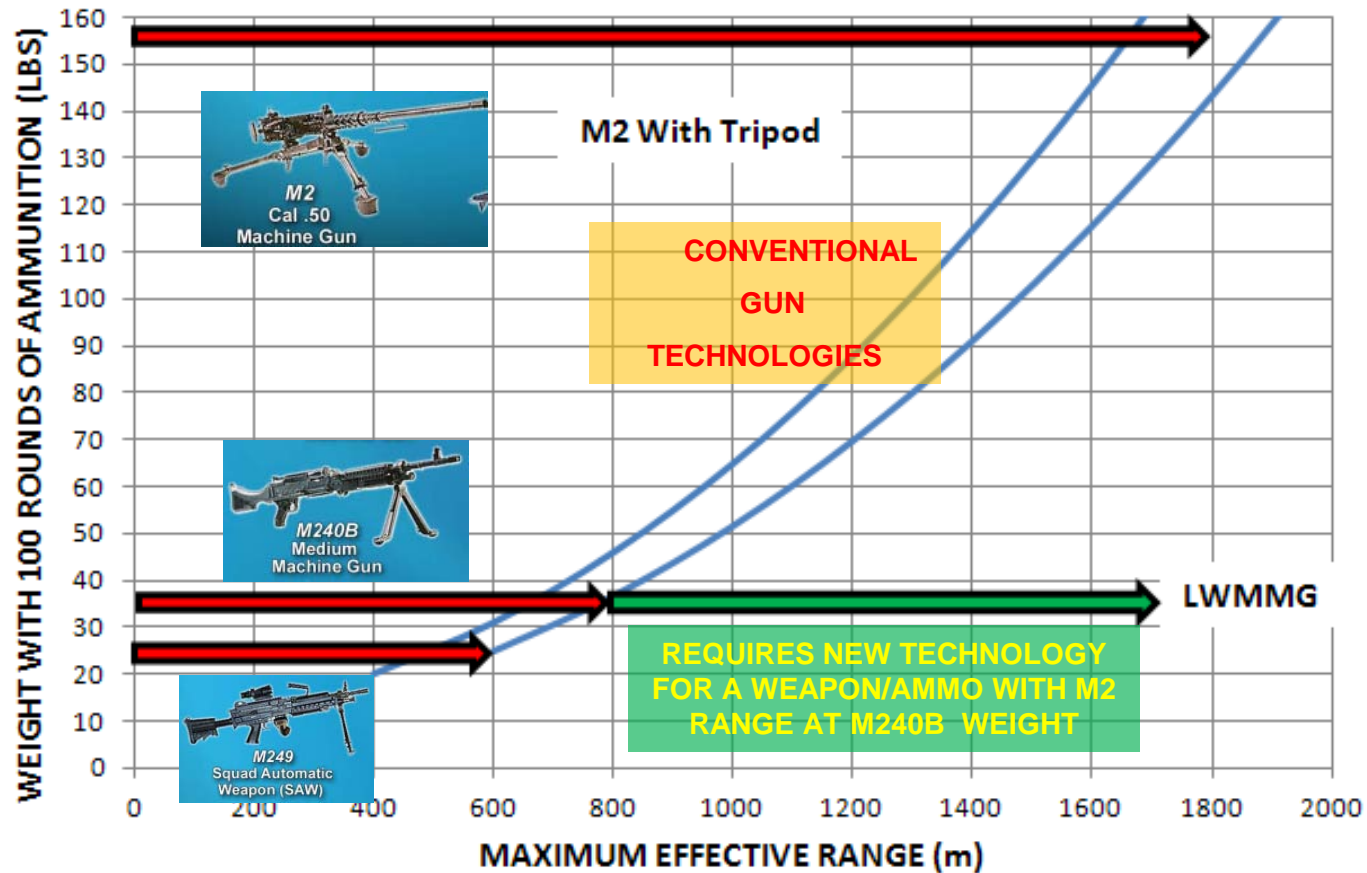
Longer Range and lethality with Man Portability

.50 BMG (M33)	1800m (A)	130 lbs Stationary or Vehicle Mounted
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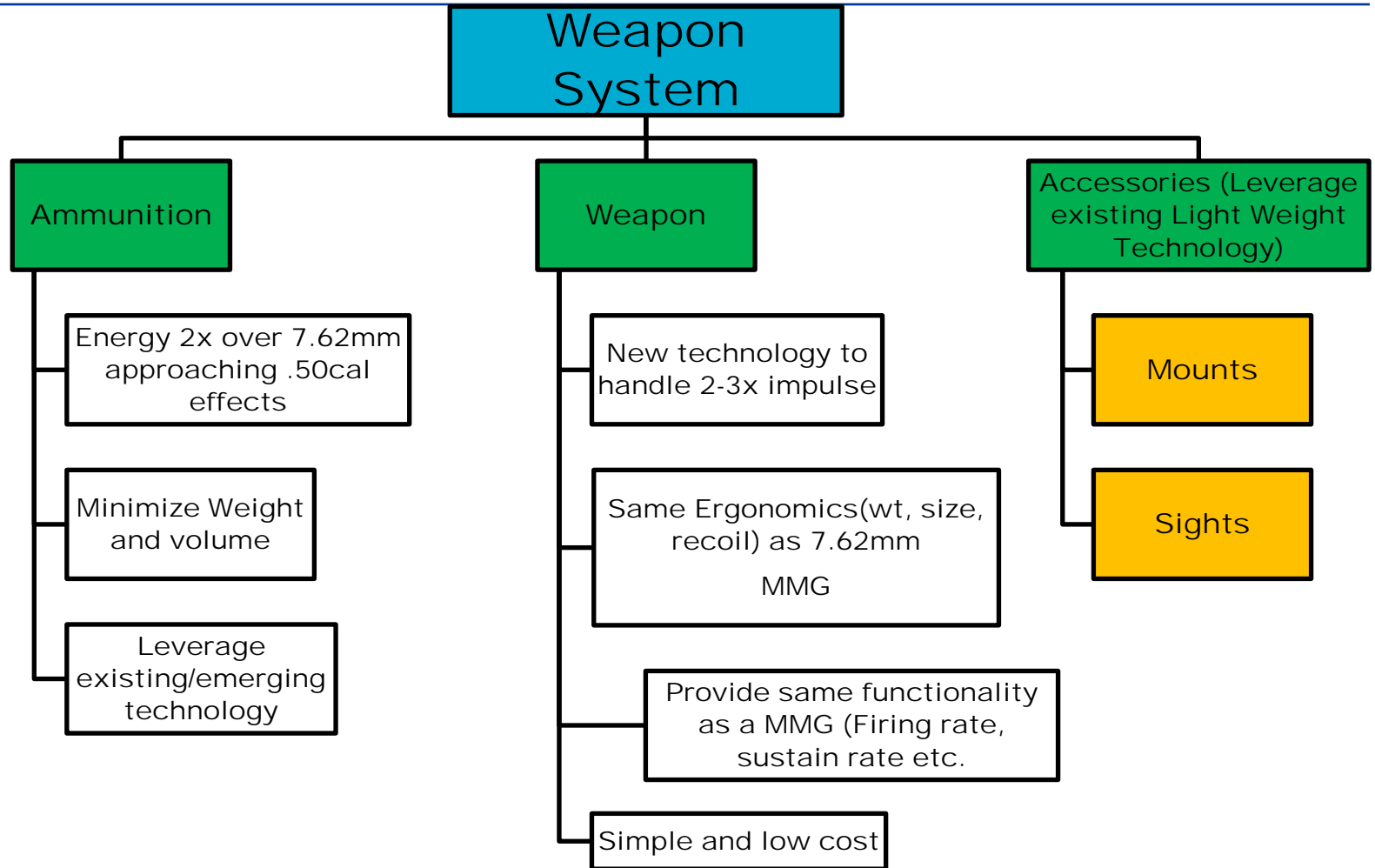
SOLUTION: DEVELOP LONG RANGE, HIGHER CALIBER WEAPON AT 7.62 mm SYSTEM WEIGHT

Gap Analysis (Continued)

System Weight Vs Max Effective Range

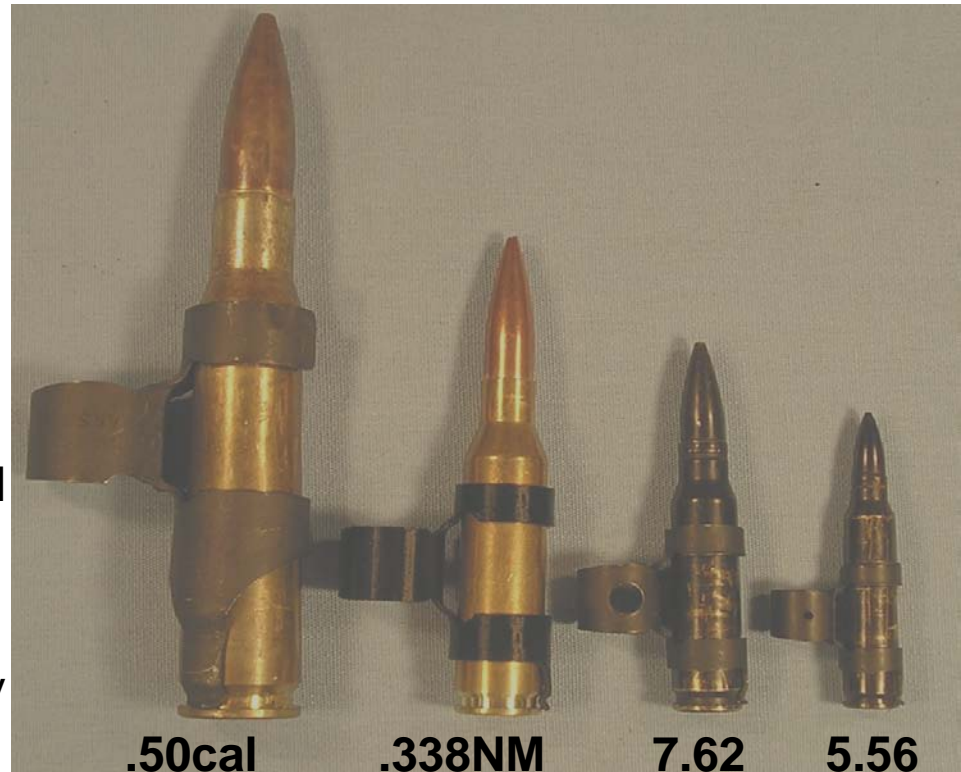


System Architecture



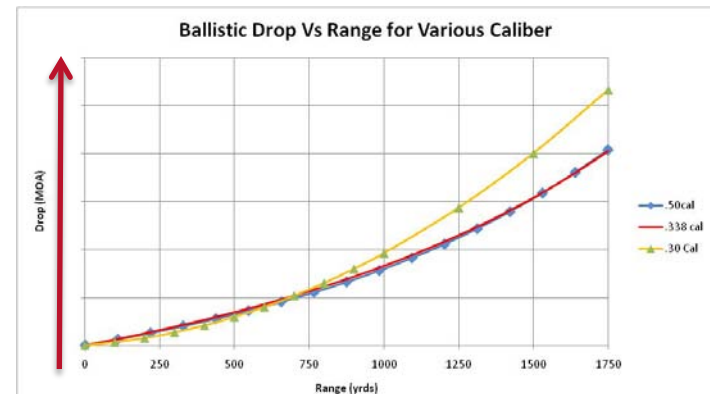
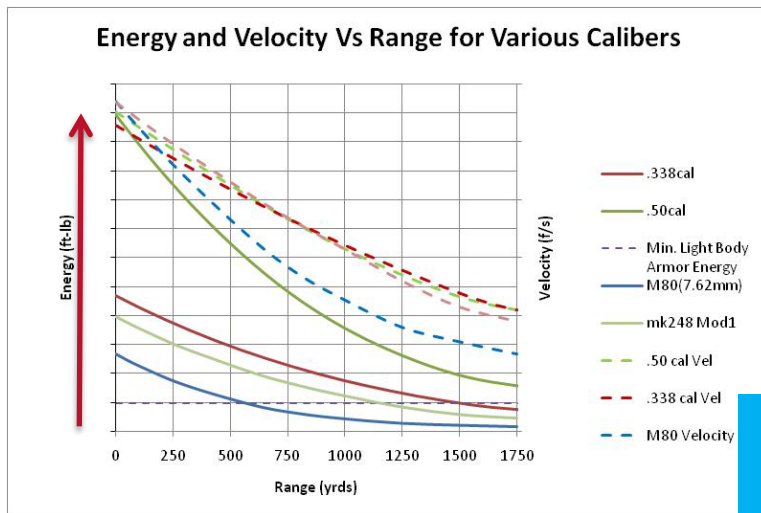
Ammunition

- Leverage Emerging/Existing Technology/Programs
 - Emerging Technology/Program Precision Sniper Rifle Program
 - Energy/Accuracy at 1500 yds
 - .338, Norma Magnum and Lapua 300 gr.
 - Existing Technology
 - .338 Lapua 300 gr. Family of ammunition
 - Mk248 MOD 1, .300 Winchester Magnum Match Grade (lower performance)



Ammunition (Continued)

- Energy over 7.62mm approaching .50 cal effects on soft targets (Requirement)
 - 2x the energy at Muzzle
 - Defeat level III Body armor at 1000 yards
 - Defeat light body armor at 1500 yards
 - Ballistic drop equivalent to .50 cal: “decrease error budgets”



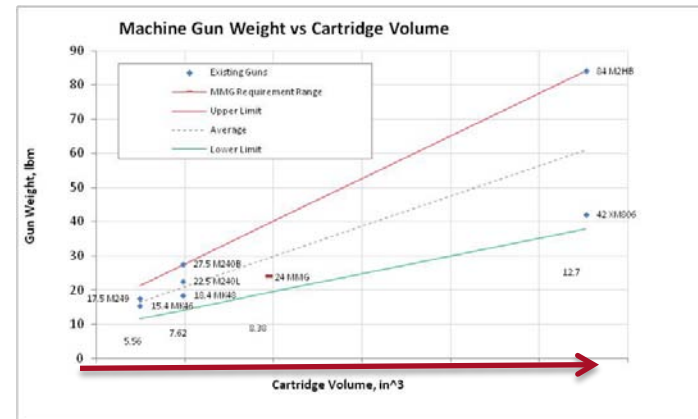
.338 Norma Magnum Meets all the energy requirements

Ammunition (Continued)

- Weight and Size
 - Cartridge Volume (Energy) drives weapon weight
 - .338 Cal (8.38mm) Pushing the limit on maintaining man portability
 - .338 Norma has a slight advantage in size and weight over Lapua



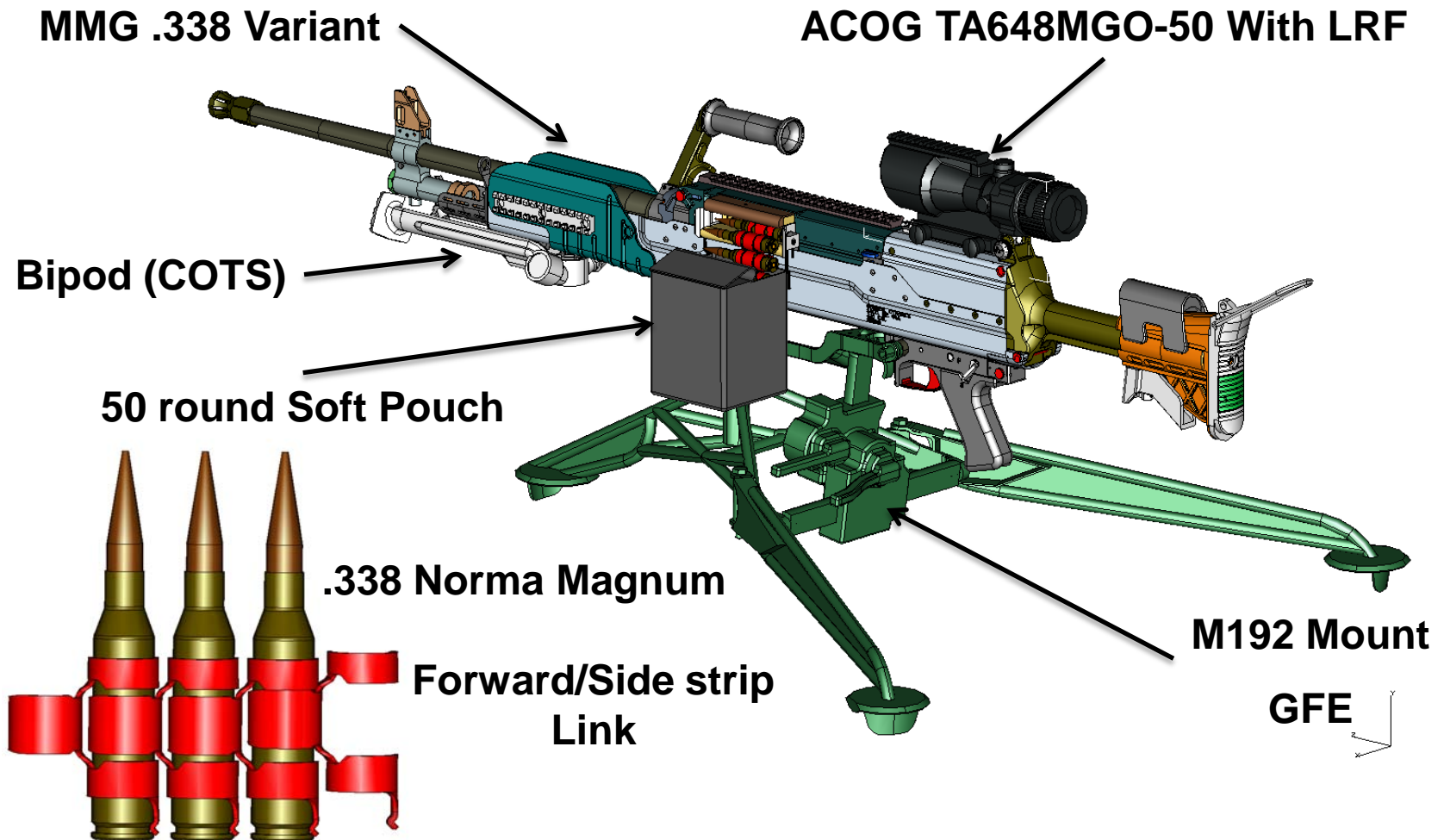
GDATP Baseline Design around the .338 Norma Magnum also compatible with Lapua and Mk248



Weapon System Requirements

- Handle 2.5x round energy but have the same feel as 7.62mm Medium Machine Gun.
- Firing rate 500 SPM
- Provide 10 minutes of continuous suppressive fire at 50-100 SPM without barrel change
- Weapon Ergonomics
 - Same foot print as M240B with weight approaching an M240L
- Weapon cost competitive with existing technology

Weapon System Concept



Weapon System Solution

- Weapon System Characteristics

- Ammunition :.338 Norma Magnum
- Projectile 300 gr. Sierra HPBT,FMJ, AP
- Muzzle velocity: 2650 fps
- Max Range : 5642 m
- Max Effective Range : 1700 m
- Weapon weight 24 lbs:
- Length: 49" collapsed
- Height of MMG on M192 Tripod 11.4"
- Barrel Length 24 in.
- Mounts: M192, tripod, Vehicle mounts



Completed new design and development to a man safe firing weapon in 14 Months

Weapon System Solution (Continued)

- **Weapon System Characteristics**

- The LWMMG features a revolutionary recoil mitigation system known as Short Recoil Impulse Averaging.
 - Substantially reduces recoil despite .338NM cartridge which has 2.5x energy of NATO 7.62mm round
 - Improves target retention during automatic fire
 - The LWMMG recoil profile is similar to a 7.62mm NATO machine gun.
 - Eliminates the need for “Soft mounts”
- At 1000 yards the LWMMG is capable of defeating Level III body armor and incapacitating soft skinned vehicles by delivering more than 4x the terminal effects of the 7.62mm NATO cartridge.



Weapon System Solution (Continued)

- The LWMMG weighs 24 pounds and features a fully collapsible stock and integrated bipod offering superior mobility and portability in both mounted and dismounted operations.



- The LWMMG features a quick change barrel with fixed headspace and timing as well as integrated MIL-STD M1913 rails allowing the use of a variety of optics, lasers and / or accessories within the warfighter's portfolio.



Weapon System Solution (Cont.)

System Weight Comparison



Min Combat System M240

M240	28. lbs
ACOG Sight	2.5 lbs
M192 Tripod	11 lbs
Spare Barrel	6.6 lbs
800 Linked Rds	53 lbs
Total	100 lbs

Min Combat System MMG

MMG .338 Variant	25. lbs
ACOG Sight	2.5 lbs
M192 Tripod	11 lbs
Spare Barrel	6.2 lbs
500 Linked Rds	60 lbs
Total	104.7 lbs

Min Combat System M2

M2HB	84 lbs
ACOG Sight	2.5 lbs
M3 Tripod	44 lbs
Spare Barrel	25 lbs
500 Linked Rds	145 lbs
Total	300 lbs

Load Break Down

Gunner (wpn, sight 100 rd)	37 lbs
A. Gunner (Trpd, S.Brl 300 rd)	37 lbs
Ammo Bearer (400 rds)	27 lbs

Load Break Down

Gunner (wpn, sght 100 rds)	40 lbs
A. Gunner (Trpd, S.Brl 200 rds)	41 lbs
Ammo Bearer (300 rds)	36 lbs

Load Break Down

1 HUMMV

**LWMMG performance of .50 cal
with weight of a M240**

Future Work

- Continue LWMMG maturation program
 - Reliability/Durability
- Polymer Case (Reduce weight)
- Lube-less Weapon (Reduce Maintenance)
- Marketing and Partnerships
- Early adopters

THANK YOU

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GENERAL DYNAMICS ARMAMENT TECHNICAL PRODUCTS

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Weapon System Movie

