

# **GENERAL DYNAMICS**

Ordnance and Tactical Systems

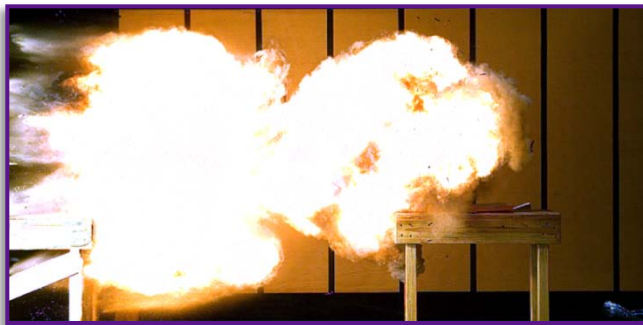
## **Reactive Material Neutralizer Technology**

2012 NDIA Joint Armaments Conference

**Jeremy Snyder**  
16 May, 2012

# Introduction

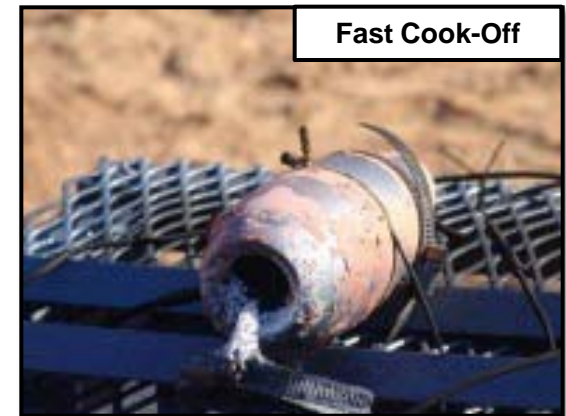
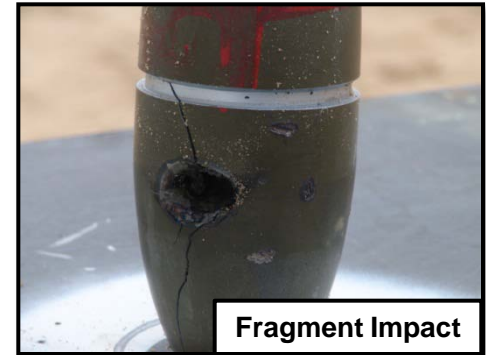
- GD-OTS Niceville Has Developed a Reactive Material (RM)-Based Neutralization Technology With Broad Application to High Explosives (HE) Neutralization
  - Neutralizers Contain Non-Detonable, High Flame Temperature RM Fill
  - No S&A Required, Unreacted Neutralizers Not Classified as Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) or Explosive Remnants of War (ERW)



# Application

## EOD/RSP's For IM Compliant HE Fills

- Increased IM Compliance of High Explosive Fills Increases The Difficulty of Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Render-Safe Procedures
  - Reduced Shock, Impact, Friction, and Sympathetic Reaction Sensitivity
  - Result: Existing Procedures Have Reduced Effectiveness
- All HE Fills Eventually Succumb to Thermal Threat
  - Thermal Decomposition, Leading to a Burn or Deflagration

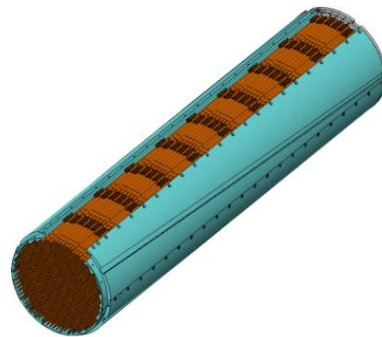
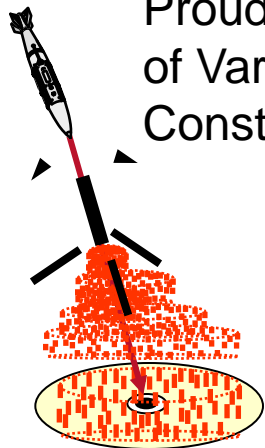


## IED/Mine Defeat

- Desire for Low Collateral Damage Effects During Threat Defeat

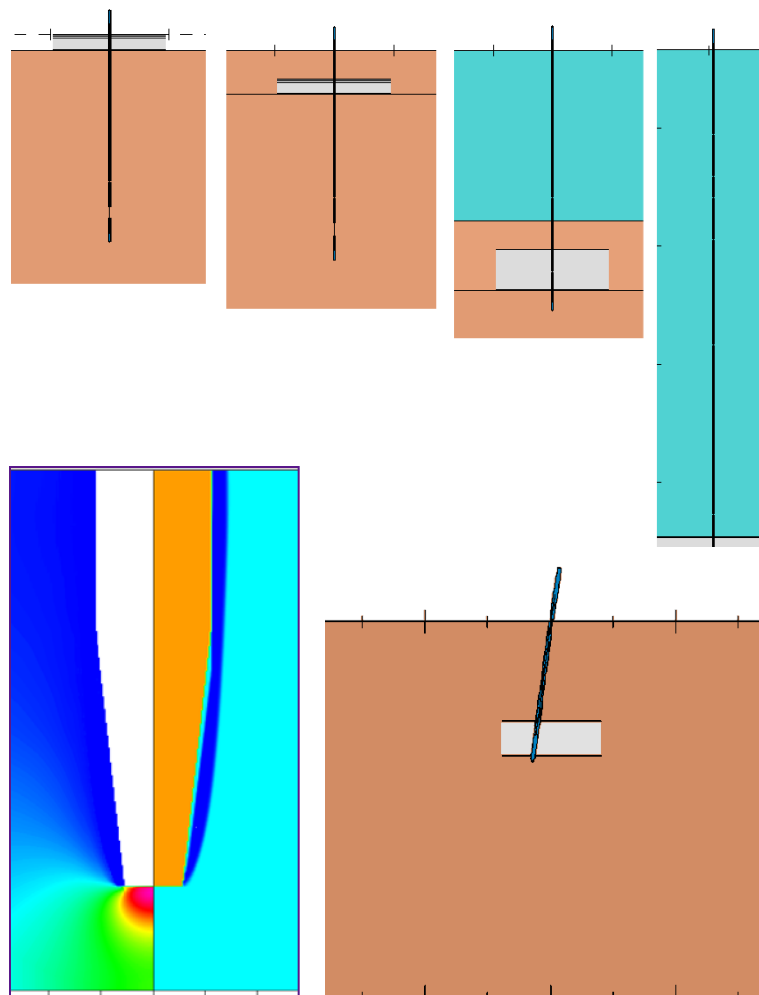
# Neutralizer Development

- Reactive Neutralizer Technology Developed During US Navy Countermine System (CMS) Program
  - GD Contracted to Provide RM Neutralizer
  - Goal: Beachhead Clearance of Sea and Land-Based Mines
  - Broad Target Set: Underwater, Buried, Proud, Both Plastic and Steel Casings of Various Thicknesses and Construction



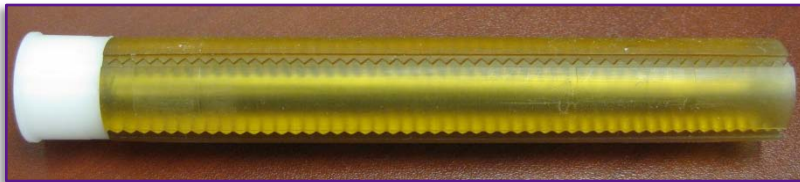
# Penetration Analysis/Packaging Study

- Target Set Analysis
  - Layers, Thickness, Materials, Overburden
- OTI\*Hull & PENCURV Used for Penetration Analysis
  - PENCURV – Rigid Body Penetration Code
  - OTI\*HULL – FD Hydrocode
  - Optimization of Nose Shape/Design for Maximum Trajectory Stability and Minimum Velocity Loss
- Packaging Trade Study
  - Dart Diameter & Mass Yielding Greatest Loadout Within System Requirements



# Water Penetration Test Video

- 4'x4'x12' Long Tank Constructed For Ballistic Water Penetration Testing
  - Acrylic Front Panels to View Water Penetration/Trajectory
  - Inert Mass Mock Neutralizers Fired via Powder Gun & Sabot
  - Verification of Code-Driven Nose Solution

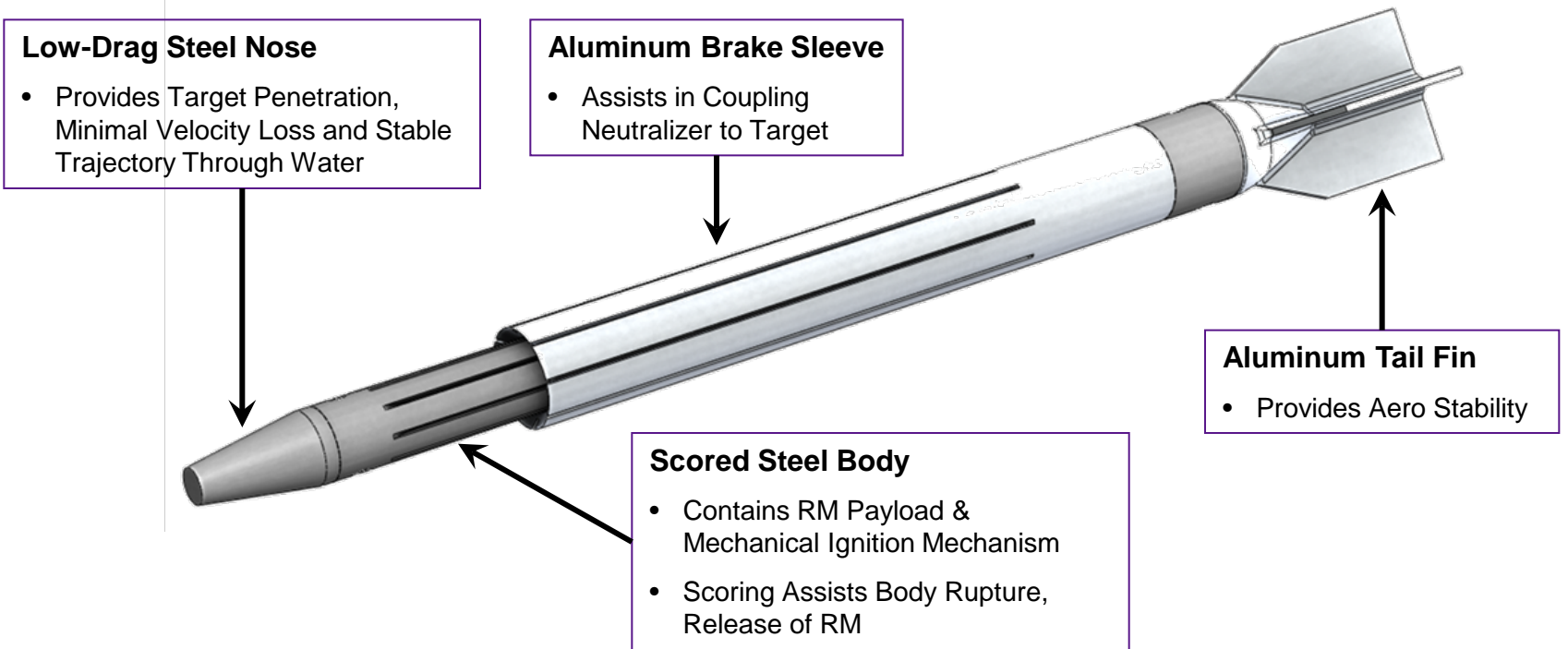


# RM Fill Material Selection

---

- Selected Group of Candidate Materials From Supplier Base
- Initial Studies Conducted:
  - Initiation Mechanisms/Sensitivity
  - Temperature Effects
  - Output/Effects on Flake TNT
  - Test Results Suggested Dual Material Solution:
    - One Material Easily Initiated, But Limited Effect on HE – Igniter
    - Second Material Harder to Initiate, But Greatest Effect on HE – Sustainer
      - Very High Flame Temperature: ~ 4500 °F

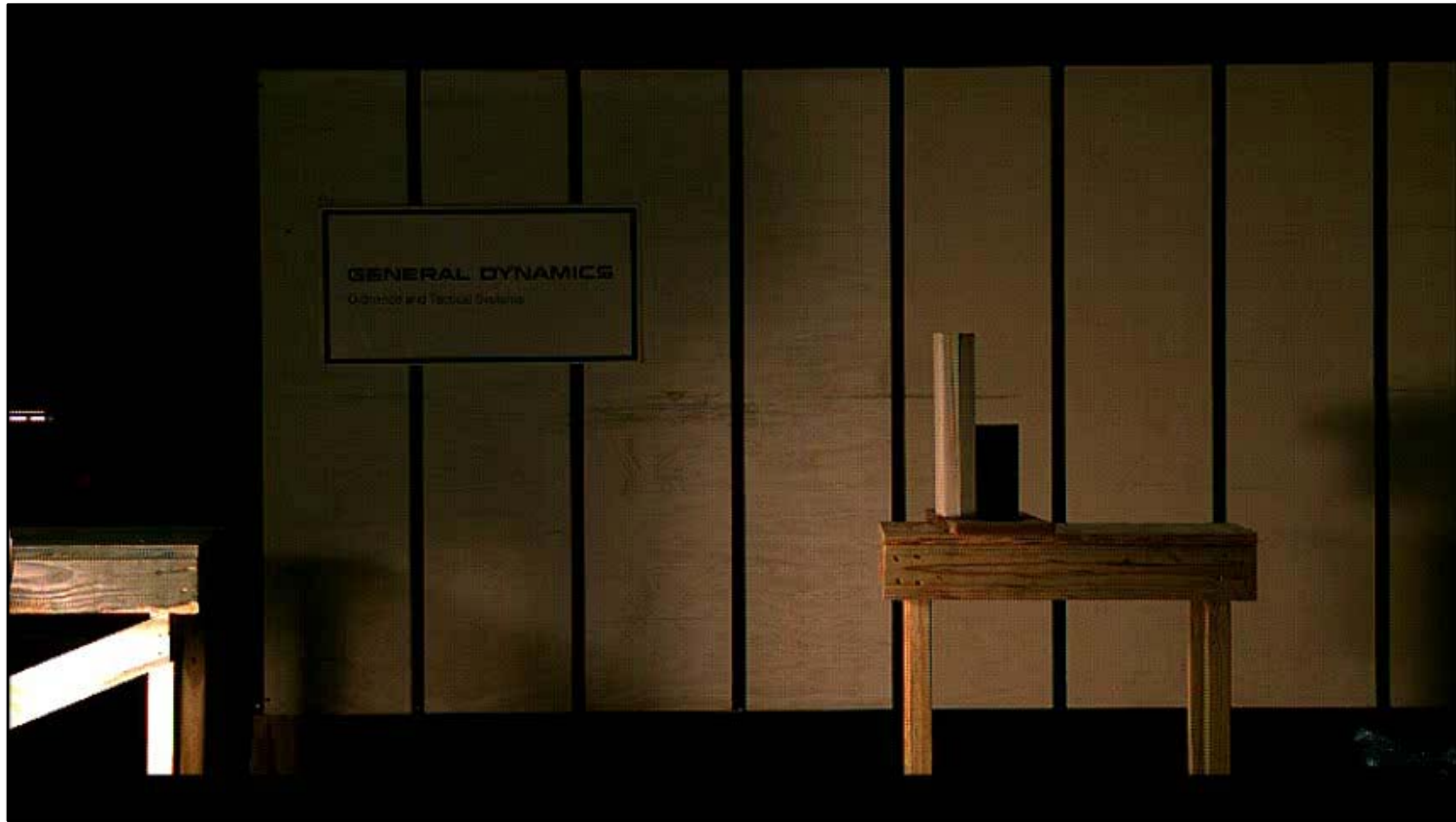
# RM Neutralizer Design



- Neutralizer Can Be Tailored to Defeat A Range of Targets and Engagements
  - Multiple Materials, Thicknesses, Emplacements, etc.
- Form Factor Can Easily be Adjusted for Integration Into Existing EOD Tools
  - PAN Disrupter, .50-Cal De-Armer, etc.

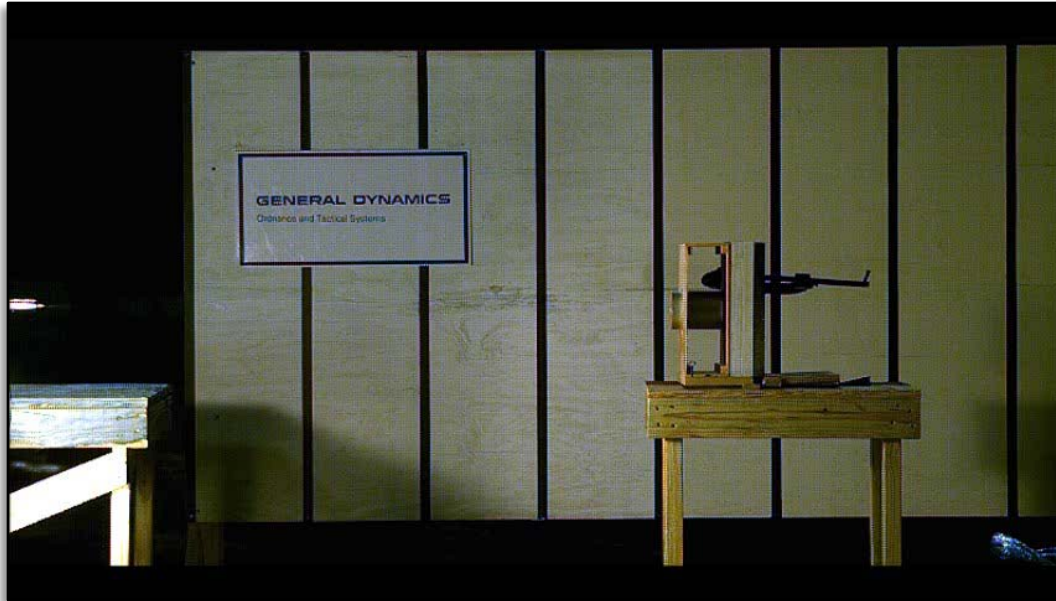


# Example RM Neutralizer Reaction



- Neutralizer Fired Against Steel Plate
  - Demonstrates Size of RM Reaction

# RM Fill Coupling With HE



- Live Neutralizer vs. Live Target
  - 2lb TNT, Cast From Flake
- Aluminum Tube Casing
- Steel Plate Backstop

# Summary

---

- New Target Defeat Mechanism Identified For Use in EOD/RSP Operations
  - ↗ Estimate of TRL 6 Maturity
  - ↗ Non-Detonable Fill, No S&A Required
  - ↗ Compliant With Cluster Munition Directive
    - Unreacted Neutralizers Not Classified as UXO
- Thermal Output Defeat of Conventional & Reduced-Sensitivity HE's
  - ↗ Conventional: Proven During CMS Program
  - ↗ Reduced Sensitivity: Unproven, But Results Look Promising
- Technology Can Be Tailored To A Range of Targets and Deployment Systems
- Possible Application as Area Effect Weapon vs. Fuel Farm Target

# GENERAL DYNAMICS

## QUESTIONS

# Contact Information

---

Jeremy Snyder

General Dynamics – OTS

115 Hart St

Niceville, FL 32578

850-897-8330

Jeremy.Snyder@GD-OTS.com