

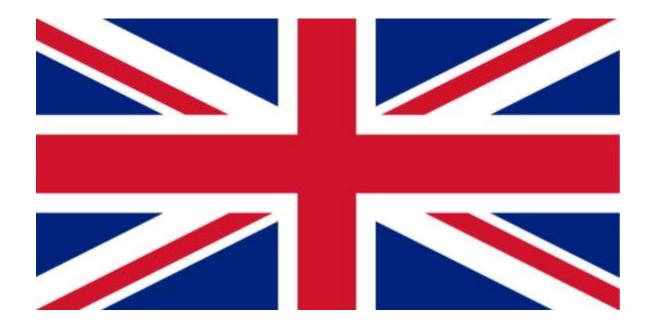


# **UK MOD Fuzing Strategy**

# John Farbrother DOSG Fuze Guy®

Defence Ordnance Safety Group

## Introduction



# **UK Fuzing**





# Purpose of the Fuzing System

- A Fuzing System is a system that performs the Safety, Arming & Triggering functions in a munition
- A Fuze is the *component* that achieves all three





# **Basic Fuzing Principles**

- Safety
  - **Isolation** of the Primary Energetic Materials
  - Isolation of the Electrical Firing Energy
  - Both
- Arming
  - Process that takes the Fuze from safe or 'Isolated ' to 'Ready to Trigger'

## Triggering

- Activate the munition in Design Mode eg detonate burn
- Activate the munition in Reversionary Mode
  - eg Self Destruct dependent on Arming
- Activate an Alternative Mode
  - eg Self Neutralize independent of Arming







# Principles (Continued)

#### Fuzing Safety

- Throughout whole lifecycle
- Credible Accidents

#### Fuze Arming

Defence

- Can be Autonomous or Commanded or a combination of both

### Munition Triggering

- Can be autonomous or Commanded
- Could be pre or post Arming





# UK Safety Management Policy

- The UK's policy for the safety and environmental management of OME is laid out in JSP 520, which takes a risk-based rather than regulatory approach
- Duty Holders are required to fulfil statutory obligations and common law duties of care whilst maintaining Defence Capability. This includes:
  - Generation and maintenance of safety & environmental cases
  - Reducing all risks to ALARP
  - Controlling Residual Risks







# Ordnance Safety Review Panel (OSRP)

- Project Team's safety cases etc are reviewed by a DOSG Ordnance Safety Review Panel (OSRP) and, if considered satisfactory, a Certificate of OME Safety (CSOME) is issued.
- The CSOME is primarily to demonstrate that the relevant processes have been followed, the safety argument is logical and that it generally makes sense.
- The issue of a CSOME is not a 'Get Out of Jail Free Card' in the event of an accident!
- Nor is it an acceptance of responsibility for S<sup>3</sup> by DOSG!

Ministry of Defence







۲

Ministry of Defence de&s



Weapon Systems **DOSG WS Team Leader** (52 posts)

Science & Technology

**DOSG ST Team Leader** 

(38 posts)

WS1: Infantry Engr EOD

WS2: Large Calibre

ST2: Risk Assessment

**ST1:** Energetic Materials

WS3: Air Weapons

ST3: Electrical & Fuzing

WS4: AW Naval Weapons

WS5: UW Naval Weapons

ST4: Life Assessment

ST5: Statistics & Modelling

**Inspector Explosives** 

ST6: Vulnerability & Research





## We are where we are...

- We've dispensed with the ROFs and we've out-sourced or completely lost our Government R&D, design, integration and manufacturing capabilities
- We now rely on the contracts that we have with industry for all those things
- We place great emphasis on use of standards
- We use audit to ensure that appropriate systems and processes are being used well and effectively
- We rely heavily on a small group of assurance organizations such as DOSG





## MOD Fuze Specialist John Farbrother





# So What?

# The plans for DOSG & the WOC

# The UK, Europe and NATO





# Fuzing is often thought of as a Deep, but Narrow Specialization





## Fuzing is often thought of as a Deep, but Narrow Specialization

But actually, no it isn't...





## Fuzing is a **Deep** but **Broad** Discipline





# The plan for the Safety Organization - DOSG

- We now only have one Fuze Guy® and we need a better plan
- Each of the six DOSG ST team has nominated one or two engineers/scientists to be their Fuzing POC
- My job is to teach them the Fuzing Fundamentals
- Their job is to look at how Fuzing impacts their specialization







# In the Wider UK

- We have created The UK Fuzing Working Group
  - The forum for UK fuzing stakeholders
  - Work will centre around the development and implementation of standards
  - Forms a fuzing focus for research work in conjunction with the MOD Research programme - WSTC
  - The Group will provides me with both expert fuzing advice and a 'mandate' to represent the UK







# Make-up of the UK Fuzing Working Group

- UK MOD & Other Government Agencies
  - Weapons Op Centre
  - DOSG
  - PTs (incl AWE)
  - DSTL
- UK Industry

Defence

- Prime Contractors
- Specialist Fuzing suppliers
- Academia (eg Research Universities)
- Specialist Companies (eg WOME Consultancies)



# Fuzing R&D

We mainly use the Weapons Science & Technology Centre (WSTC) to plan our R&D expenditure so that it fits in with our broader Munition R&D programmes. Both in terms of the scope and TRL

The WSTC covers all munition related R&D, including fuzing and has a number of Expert Advisory Groups EAGs including the Effects EAG (which includes fuzing)

But we now have 'fuze aware' specialists, either from DOSG or UK Fuzing, in most of the other EAGs, who understand how fuzing relates to the relevant subject area. eg Energetic materials, sensors, power, logic devices etc







# **UK Policy on Standards**

- Where possible, safe design shall be demonstrated by compliance with appropriate standards.
- In Fuzing terms that means compliance with:
  - Defence Standard 07-85 (Design Requirements for Weapons Systems)
  - STANAG 4187 (Safety Design Requirements for Fuzing Systems)
  - STANAG 4368 (Safety Design Requirements for Rocket motor ignition systems)
  - STANAG 4497 (Safety Design Requirements for Hand Emplaced Munitions)







## But the Standards need work

- The UK has a number of issues with the current crop of NATO Fuzing Standards and is working with all our NATO colleagues to address them:
  - The close similarity between 4187 and 4368 but...
  - No explicit reference to Autonomous or Command Arming in either
  - Several similar, but different descriptions of the 500v test across 4 STANAGs
  - Inconsistent terminology
  - Role of the NSAA is too regulatory for the UK and others (specifically the NSAA shall certify the design...)
- And we're working with our colleagues to address these

Ministry of Defence



# Conclusion

- F = S, A & T
- Our basic safety management principles remain extant
- Fuzing is a broad deep team game and we are re-organizing to match that
- R&D is key

Defence

- Standards are Key
- The Future is collaborative



