



ENHANCED EXPEDITIONARY



ENGAGEMENT CAPABILITY

Advanced Capability Extended Range Mortar
(ACERM)

2016 NDIA Armament Systems Forum
Luke Steelman

25-28 Apr 2016

- Last time we were here ... (Baltimore)
 - Presented new 81mm Concept Projectile for USMC Infantry Organic Fires
 - Advanced Capability Extended Range Mortar (ACERM)
 - Maximum Range: 10km (T) – 20km (O)
 - GPS+SAL Guidance: 10m CEP₅₀ (T), 1m CEP₅₀ (O)
 - Developed but not Flight Tested
 - Wind Tunnel, Shock Environment, & Hardware-in-the-Loop Only

- As of Today ...
 - Completed 2x Live Fire Flight Tests
 - Survivability & GPS Guided Flight Demonstrated
 - 19.1km Maximum Range
 - 81mm Mortar World Record (unofficial)
 - 13.7km GPS Guide-to-Hit with < 10m CEP₅₀

**Radical Capability increase for Organic Infantry Fire Support
Catalyst/Enabler for New Warfighting Concepts**

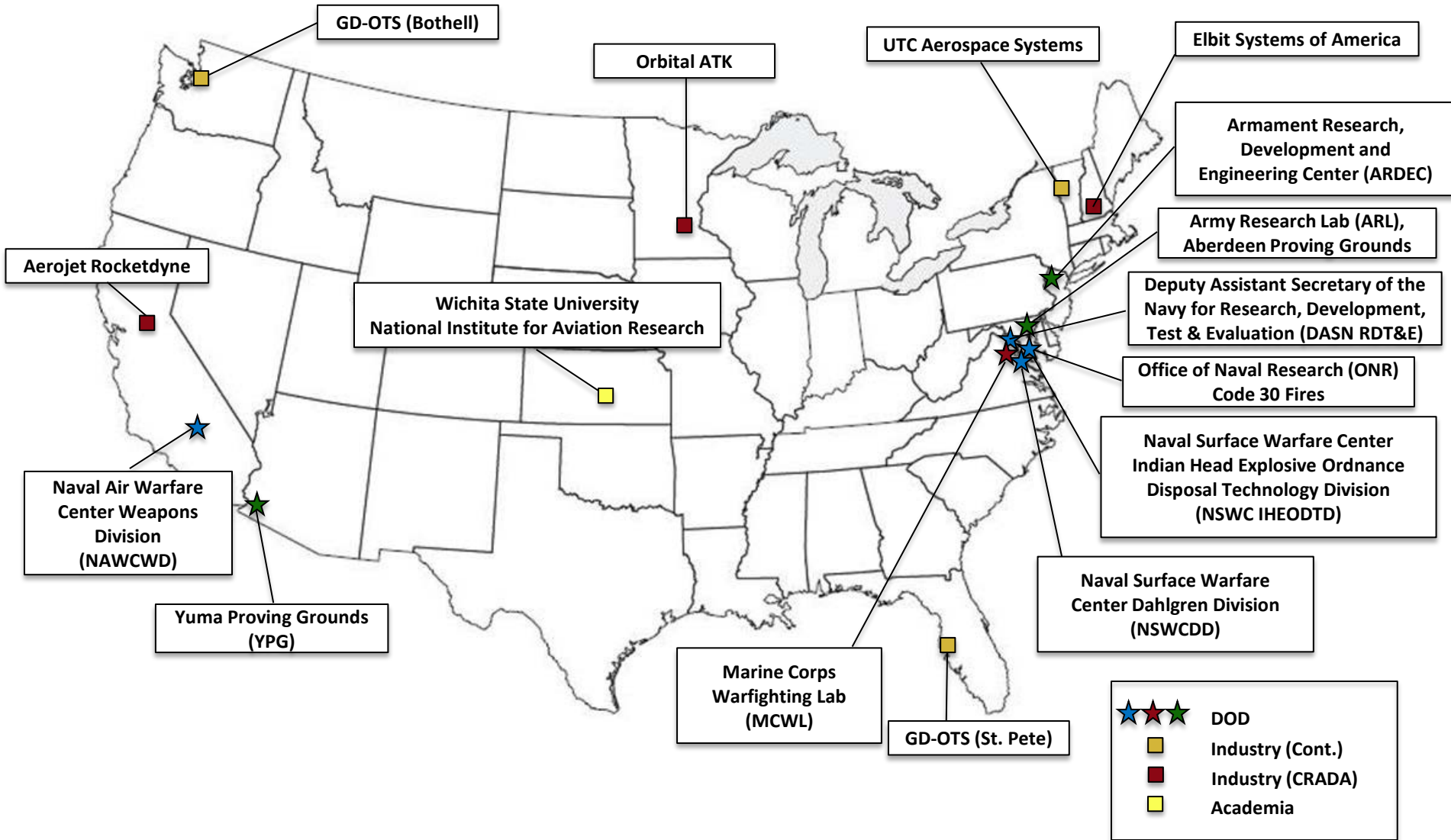
- Sponsor:
 - ONR 30 Fires
- Objective:
 - Demonstrate the “Art of the Possible” in fire support technologies for USMC weapons, through an ongoing series of integrated system firing demonstrations
- Structure:
 - Demonstrate systems to TRL 5-6
 - Transition Systems and/or Technologies to Acquisition or FNC programs
 - One new caliber every 3-4 years
 - Flexible to meet future stakeholder needs



**First up is 81mm Mortar
Followed by 155mm Artillery & 60mm Mortar**

E3C Development Team

Advanced Capability Extended Range Mortar (ACERM) – 2016 NDIA Armament Systems Forum – 25-28 April 2016



E3C 81mm System

Advanced Capability Extended Range Mortar (ACERM) – 2016 NDIA Armament Systems Forum – 25-28 April 2016

Advanced Capability Extended Range Mortar (ACERM)

- New 81mm Precision AUR
- Dual Mode GPS + SAL Guidance
- >20km Maximum Range



Precision for Future Infantry Units for both Mounted and Dismounted Operations

Miniature Mission Setter (MMS)

- <4lb Precision Weapon & Fuze Setter
- Logistic Enabler for Foot Mobile Precision



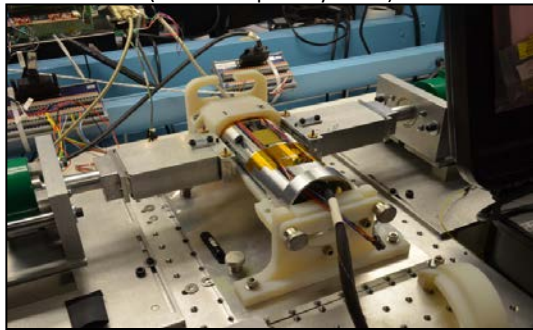
Low Cost SAL Seeker (LCSS)

- Enables 1m CEP50
- Eliminates TLE
- GPS Denied Precision Fires

Demonstration Schedule

Advanced Capability Extended Range Mortar (ACERM) – 2016 NDIA Armament Systems Forum – 25-28 April 2016

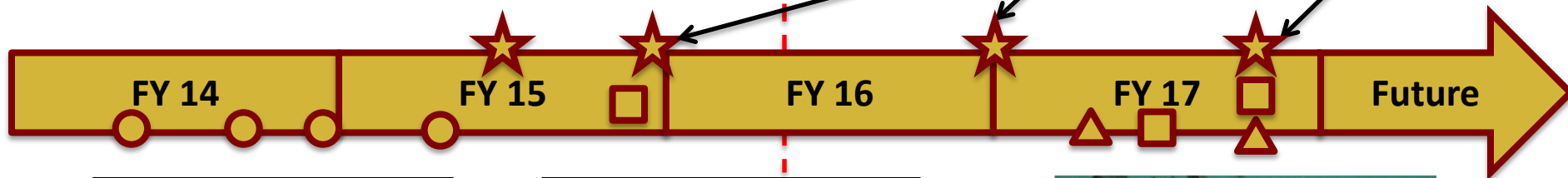
Hardware-in-the-Loop Testing
(UTC Aerospace Systems)



Live Fire Testing
(Yuma Proving Grounds)



JTAC-LTD & Skylark I-LE UAS
(Elbit Systems of America)



Wind Tunnel Testing
(NIAR, Wichita State University)



Miniature Mission Setter (MMS) Integration
(GD-OTS)



© 2015, Aerojet Rocketdyne

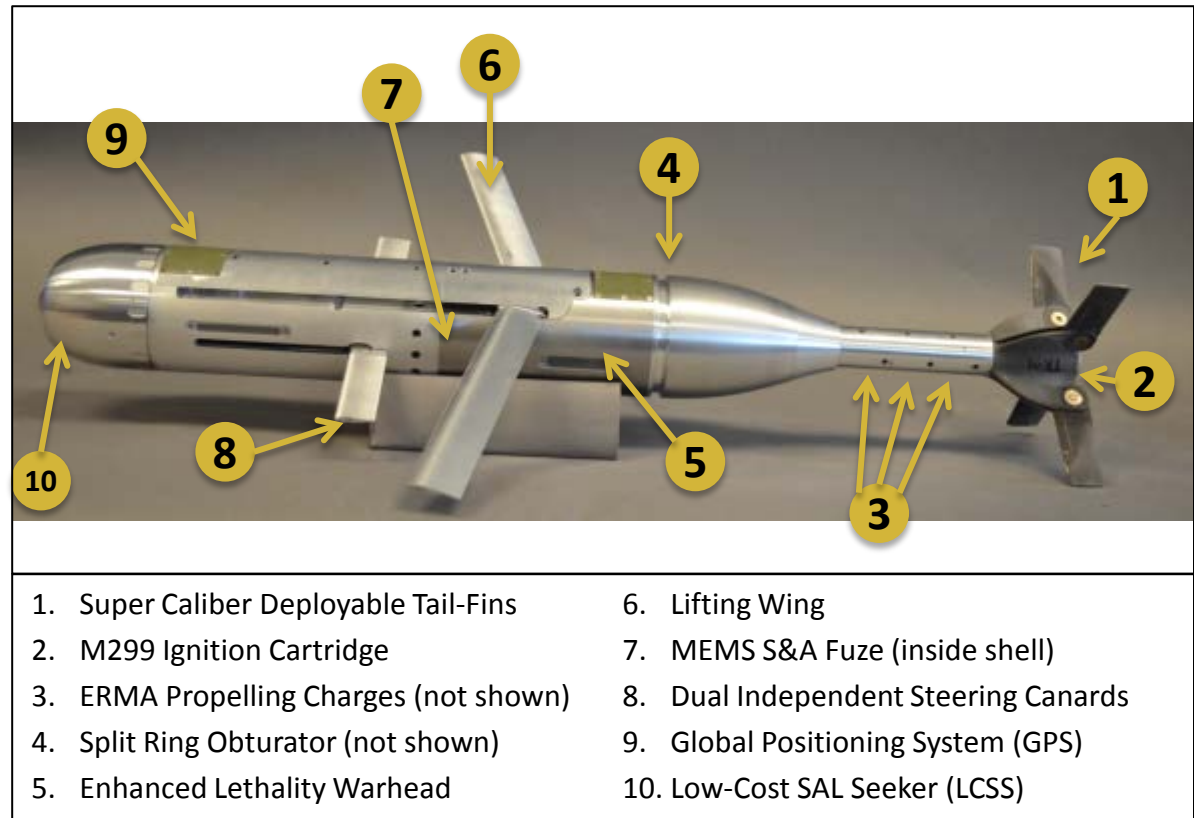
Live Warhead Testing
(Aerojet Rocketdyne)

TRL 6 Demonstrations in FY17 @MCWL Coordinated Warfighting Experiment

ACERM Cartridge

Advanced Capability Extended Range Mortar (ACERM) – 2016 NDIA Armament Systems Forum – 25-28 April 2016

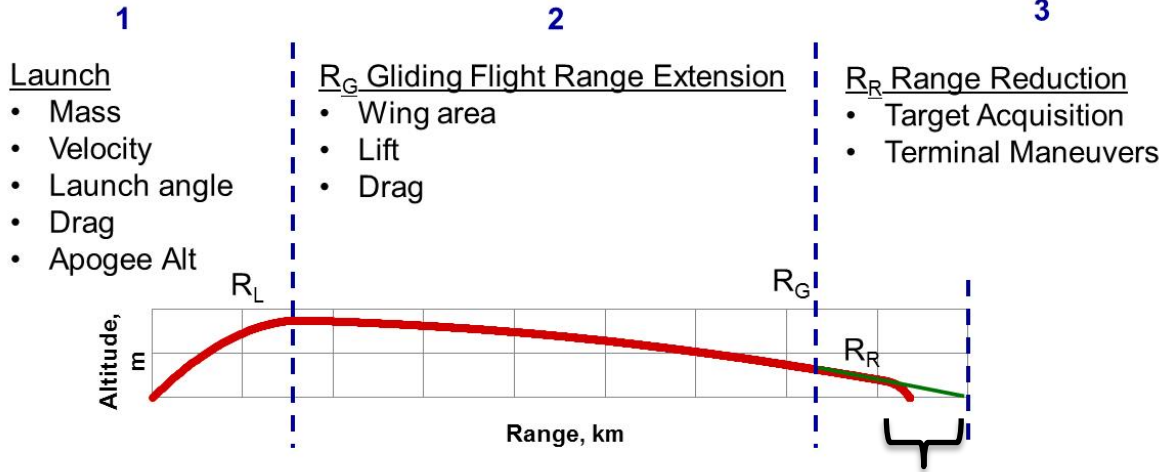
- **New 81mm AUR**
 - Airframe co-developed by NSWCCD, ARL, & UTC Aerospace
- **Ultra Extended Range**
 - 10 km (T), 20 km (O)
 - Aerodynamics only, No rocket motor
- **Precision Delivery**
 - GPS – 10m CEP₅₀ (T), 5m CEP₅₀ (O)
 - SAL – 5m CEP₅₀ (T), 1m CEP₅₀ (O)
- **Cost Effective**
 - \$15k/unit (T), \$10k/unit (O)
 - Comparable to existing systems



**Extended Range Minimizes Re-Emplacements,
Keeps Pace with Mobile/Dynamic Engagements**

Making Range

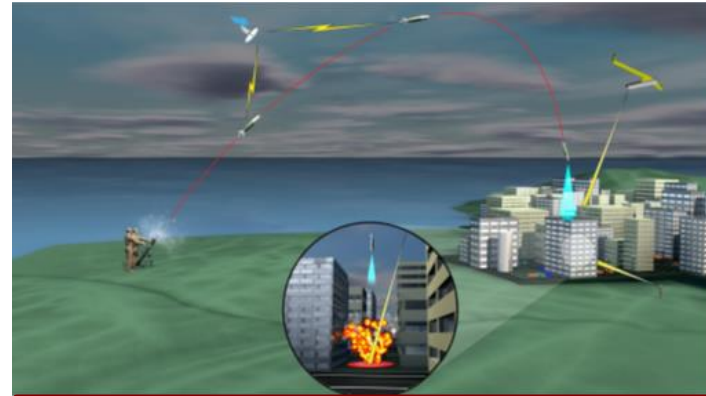
Advanced Capability Extended Range Mortar (ACERM) – 2016 NDIA Armament Systems Forum – 25-28 April 2016



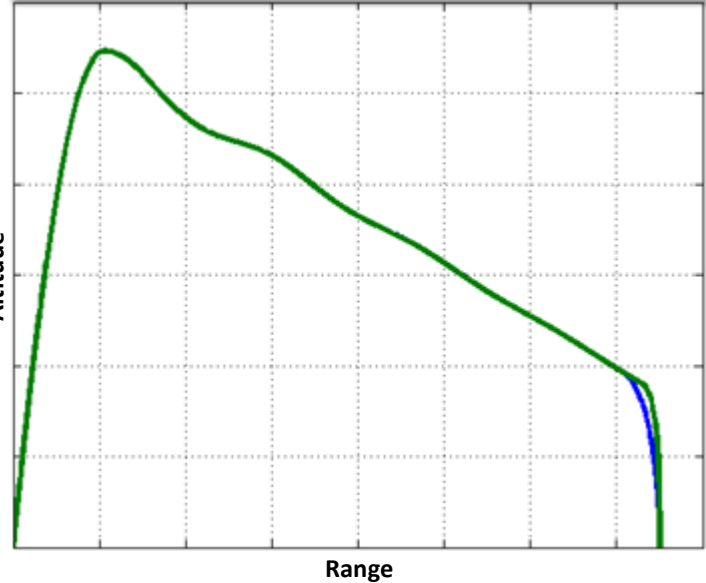
20-22 km Maximum Range
Based on Latest Flight Test

Glide Architecture Provides >60% of Range Without Need for In-Flight Propulsion

Lift + Control = Maneuverability



Enables 81mm Fire Support to participate in Urban/Defilade Engagements at Range



Low-Cost SAL Seeker (LCSS)

Advanced Capability Extended Range Mortar (ACERM) – 2016 NDIA Armament Systems Forum – 20-22 April 2015

Now



LCSS v2

- STANAG 3733 SAL Targeting Sensor
- 0.5 lb, 6.3 in³
- Capable down to 10 mJ/pulse
- External Projectile Sub-System
- Hardened to 10 kgee's
- Est. \$1k unit @ 10k rate
- 35 prototypes delivered

FY 16



LCSS v3

- LCSS V2 Capabilities +
- 0.3 lb, 4.0 in³
- Internal Projectile Sub-System
 - Optics must be ported
- Embedded Ranging Sensor for Precision HOB
 - 1-20m Selectable w/ 3.5% err.
- 2 prototypes ordered

FY 18

Coming Soon

LCSS v4

- LCSS V3 Capabilities +
- 0.3 lb, 4.0 in³
- Guidance Processor
- Inertial Sensor Suite
- Additional I/O for CAS, Fuze, and Other Guided Projectile Subsystems

Future Development Will Yield LCSS v2 Capabilities in **80% Smaller** Form Factor

FY17 DOTC Topic

Miniature Mission Setter

Advanced Capability Extended Range Mortar (AC/ERM) -- 2016 NDIA Armament Systems Forum -- 25-28 April 2016

(MIMS)

- Man Portable System
 - Enables smaller PGMs and Foot Mobile Precision
 - Weight < 4lbs
 - Leverages 8" Tablet Computer from Target Handoff System (THS)
- Improved Power Efficiency
 - Direct Contact Interface
 - Environmentally Rugged Connector Developed
- Android Open Architecture Touchscreen Interface
 - Intuitive and familiar
 - Minimal User Input Required
 - Expansion to Host Additional apps (Mapping, Force tracking, Mission Planning, Intel)
- EPIAFS Backwards Compatibility
 - Already generates same data message format
 - Inductive setter output through Legacy Compatibly Kit

Partnering with MARCORSYSCOM to Mature MMS as logistic enhancement for Expeditionary Fire Control System (EFCS)



PLUMSS: 40 lbm, 3120 in³



MMS: <4 lbm, 100 in³

Current MMS Features:

- Android Tablet (8" Screen)
- Embedded SAASM GPS
- Crypto Storage/Handling
- Rugged Weapon Connector
- High Power Battery
- Two-Wire/Tac-Link Modem

- ACERM Survivability & Roll Control (6 Rounds)
 - Survivability of Key Sub-Systems
 - Validation of Wind Tunnel Aerodynamic Data
 - Active Roll Control Demonstrated
 - Validated IMU Capabilities
 - LCSS Track on Designated Target (Ride-Along)
 - Using GLTD II
 - Precision Delivery – 3,200m Target
 - 10-20m Miss Distances using C/A GPS
- ERMA Propellant (10 Rounds)
 - ACERM Ballistic Slugs
 - Charge weight assessment & validation
 - Achieved 292.5m/s on 13.5lbm fly away mass

**Groundwork Laid for Extended Range
81mm Flight Testing**



ACERM FT1 Test Projectile

- No Wing
- Diagnostic Telemetry Module (DTM) Warhead Surrogate
- No Tactical GPS, C/A Code GPS in DTM
- M38 Propellant (Zone 3)

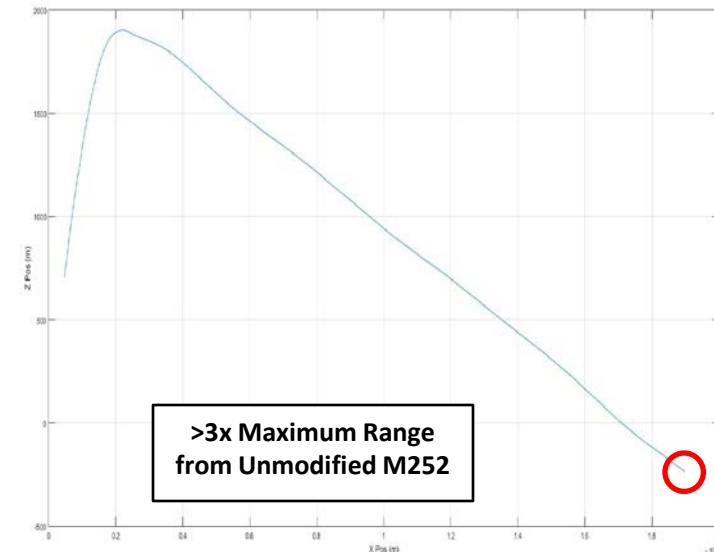


- ACERM Extended Range and Closed Loop Precision Guidance (8 Rounds)

- Full ACERM Configuration
 - Diagnostic Telemetry Module (DTM) Warhead Surrogate
 - C/A GPS in DTM, C/A GPS (L3) in GNC
- Validation of Full Airframe Design
 - Outperformed Predictions,
- Combined Test Objectives with unfunded FT2
 - Open Loop Guided Flight

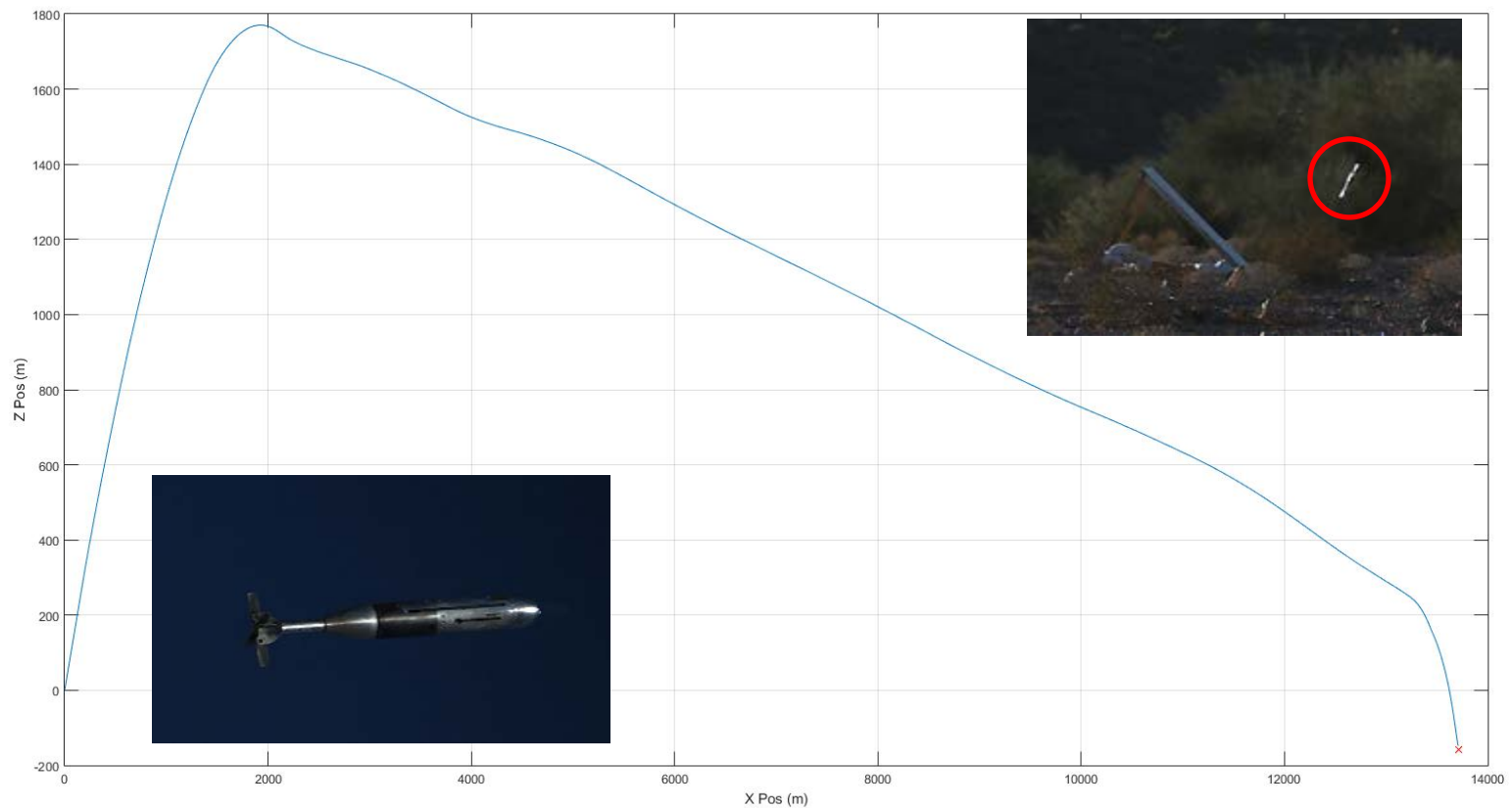
- Results

- 19.1km Maximum Range Glide
 - GPS Navigation to Hold Line-of-Fire, ERMA Propellant (290m/s)
 - Unofficial Record for 81mm Maximum Range
 - 22km Maximum Range possible w/o any changes
- GPS Guide-to-Hit at 13.7km
 - 1.7m and 5.3m miss distances
 - ERMA Propellant – Reduced Charge (243 m/s)
- LCSS track on Designated Target (Ride-Along)
 - Using AN/PEQ15 JTAC-LTD



**FT4 Test Scheduled for Oct/Nov '16
SAL Guidance Against Static & Moving Targets**

Range vs. Altitude



1.7m Miss @ 13.7km target – Reduced Launching Charge (243m/s)
(Target altitude below gun position)

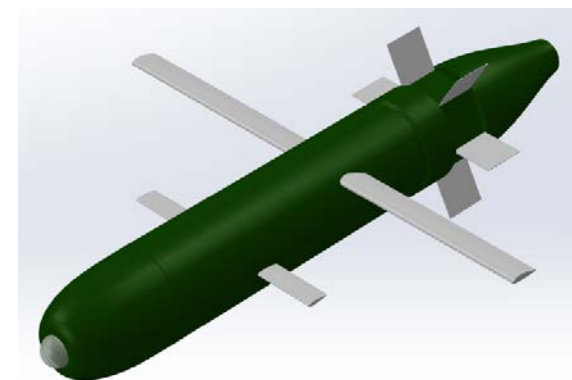


Unclassified

**Distribution Statement A:
Approved for public release.
Distribution is unlimited**

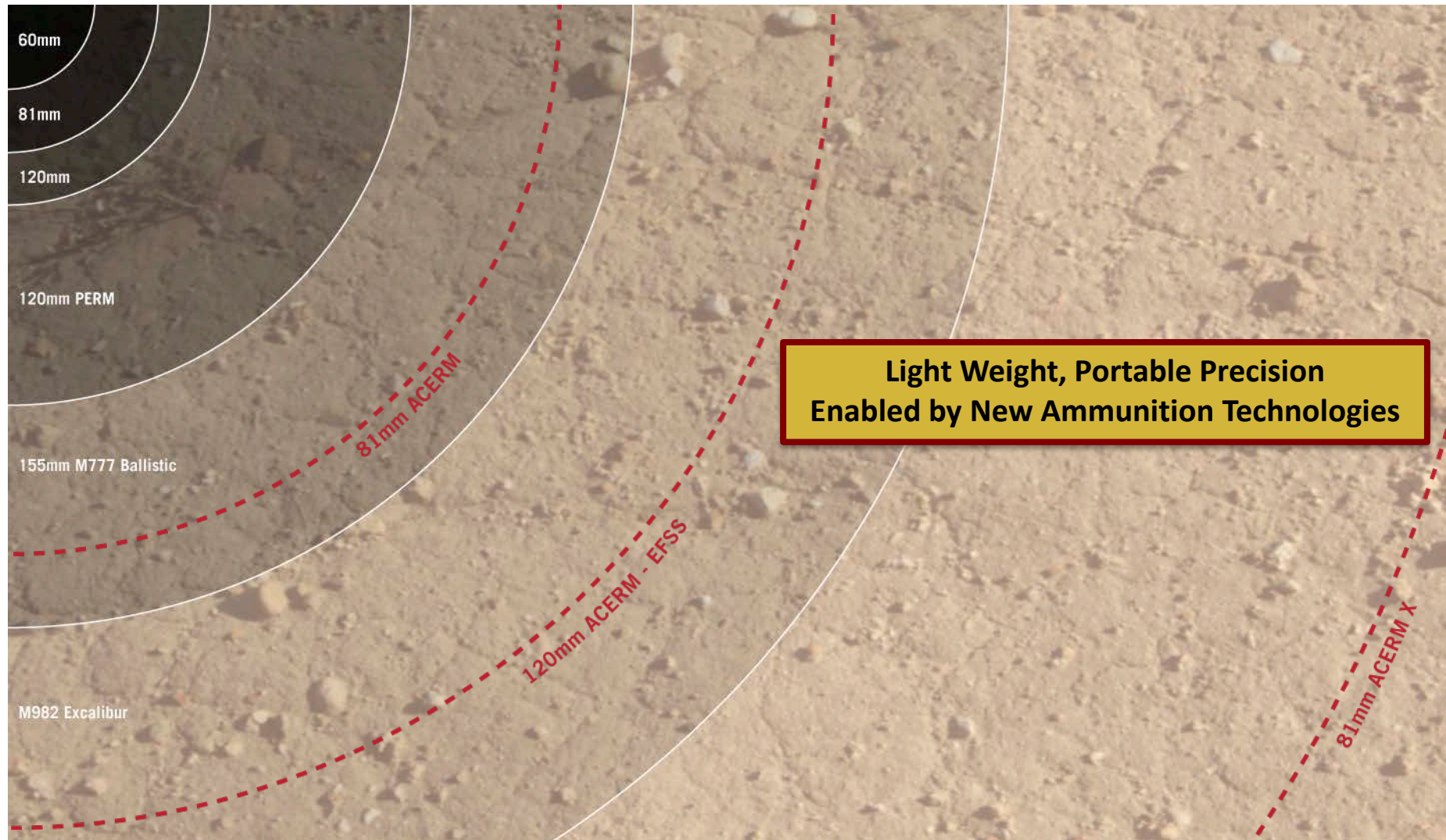
Unclassified

- 120mm ACERM
 - 24km (M120) to 33km (M327) Maximum Range
 - GPS+SAL Precision Guidance
 - Already designed and under test through IR&D effort
- Air Dropped (ACERM Air)
 - Small form factor “SDB-Style” capability for UAS
 - Minimal Changes to Fuzing required
 - Engage targets within radius = 6x Altitude
- eXtreme Performance Configuration (ACERM-X)
 - 40 – 60 km Maximum Range
 - TOF to 15 km reduced to <120 sec
- Naval ACERM
 - Readily adaptable to Navy 5-Inch and other gun systems
 - 81mm mortar can be installed directly on small/intermediate class ships
 - Low-Cost fire Support capability for Littoral/Riverine operations



Current Fires vs. ACERM

Advanced Capability Extended Range Mortar (ACERM) – 2016 NDIA Armament Systems Forum – 25-28 April 2016



**Light Weight, Portable Precision
Enabled by New Ammunition Technologies**

Conclusions

Advanced Capability Extended Range Mortar (ACERM) – 2016 NDIA Armament Systems Forum – 25-28 April 2016

- ACERM can expand Infantry Fire Support Envelope with Organic Assets
 - 81mm Precision Fires to >20 km
 - Can keep pace with dynamic/mobile engagements
 - Cost Comparable to Existing Precision Fire Support
- As Part of E3C System
 - Urban Terrain Engagements
 - Continued Operations During GPS Denial
 - Foot Mobile Precision
- Future ACERM Capabilities
 - 120mm Variant
 - Air-Dropped Variant for UAS with SDB Style Capabilities
 - Ultra Extended Range (>40 km)
 - Naval Fire Support

**SAL Guidance & Moving Targets
Demonstration in Oct/Nov**

**TRL 6 Capability
Demonstrations in FY 17**



- Questions?