

# New generation Influence Mine classified as 1.6N

B. Granqvist, H. Hytti

OY FORCIT AB Forcit Defence

P.O.Box 19, FIN -10901 Hanko, Finland

[Bjorn.granqvist@forcit.fi](mailto:Bjorn.granqvist@forcit.fi)

# New generation Influence Mine classified as 1.6N

## History:

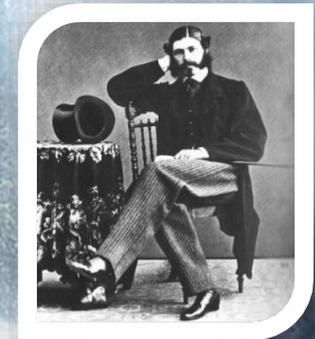
- Forciti was founded in 1893, Finland
- Since 1920's been a manufacturer for armed forces: ammunition, TNT -> PBX -> Defence System supplier
- Development and production of PBX's since 1983



Hanko plant

## Today:

- Forciti is the largest explosives producer in Nordic countries
- Own R&D programmes and PBX family, also commonly known PBXN-109 etc.
- One of the largest PBX manufacturers in Europe



Forciti founder  
John Malcom  
Lewin 1893

## New generation Influence Mine classified as 1.6N

- BLOCKER, is a cost effective Influence Mine equipped with advanced sensor systems (acoustic-, pressure- and magnetic sensors, optionally UEP)
- The BLOCKER is manufactured by OY FORCIT AB in Finland. Development was initiated by the Finnish Navy with serial production starting in 2013.
- Insensitive Munitions Plastic Bonded Explosives, FOXIT and FPX R1M as a booster.  
Total underwater energy output equivalent to over 1000 kg of TNT



# New generation Influence Mine classified as 1.6N

BLOCKER PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS	
Shape	Barrel
Height	Max. 1300 mm
Length	Max. 900 mm
Width	Max. 900 mm
Gross weight	~750 kg
Net explosive quantity	~600 kg
OPERATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS	
Shelf-life	25 years
Climate categories	C1-B2, -33 °C up to +63 °C
Main charge (EIDS)	FOXIT-Plastic Bonded Explosive
Booster charge	FPX R1- Plastic Bonded Explosive
Operational in water	Minimum 1 year (option min 2 years)
Underwater Shock energy (50 m)	1,4 x TNT
Underwater Bubble energy (50 m)	2,2 x TNT

## New generation Influence Mine classified as 1.6N

- Both main charge and booster explosives widely tested and qualified (STANAG).
- FOXIT has been tested according to UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and testing has been performed by Finnish Defence Forces Research Agency. Based on the tests, FOXIT meets the requirements of EIS-material (Extremely Insensitive Substance).
- Qualification of the booster explosive FPX R1 has been performed by UK MOD, Swedish Armed Forces and Finnish Defence Forces.
- Underwater Influence Mine, BLOCKER system and its main charge (FOXIT) and booster (FPX R1) combination have proven to be insensitive enough to be classified to 1.6N.
- The aim was to get international transport classification in hazard division 1.6 and compatibility group N under the UN 0486.

## New generation Influence Mine classified as 1.6N

- This Mine fulfils all the IM requirements.
- Tests and classification for 1.6N was initiated.
- After completing the extensive testing, the work to classify the Underwater Influence Mine to 1.6N was finalized in Finland 2018.

## New generation Influence Mine classified as 1.6N

- In addition to STANAG IM tests, the UN Tests 7 (g) - 7(k) and series 4 have been conducted to the whole Underwater Influence Mine (Article). Series 3, 5 and 7 (a) – 7(f) tests have been made on the FOXIT (Substance). According to tests performed by FDRA, the Underwater Influence Mine is not too dangerous to transport (the Manual of Tests and Criteria, Series 4) and it is thermally stable (the Manual of Tests and Criteria, Series 3).
- The Underwater Influence Mine passes all the test series 7 tests, and therefore the Underwater Influence Mine could be assigned to division 1.6.
- Booster less than 0,25 vol-% and hence no need for EIS, according to Transport of Dangerous Goods Manual of Tests and Criteria 6<sup>th</sup> edition.

# New generation Influence Mine classified as 1.6N

- 7 (a) – 7 (f) tests on FOXIT

TEST	DESCRIPTION	RESULT
7 (a) EIDS Cap test	Shock test to determine the sensitivity to detonation by a standard detonator.	no reaction – pass
7 (b) EIDS Gap test	Shock test with defined booster and confinement to determine the sensitivity to shock. The gap is defined as thickness of PMMA. The substance will pass the test if there is no transmission with the gap thickness of 70 mm or less with the used test assembly.	50 mm - pass
7 (c) EIDS Impact Sensitivity	Test to determine the sensitivity of the explosive substance to deteriorate under the effect of an impact.	Not applicable since the diameter of test charges is well below the critical diameter.
7 (d) EIDS Bullet Impact Test	Test to determine the degree of reaction of the explosive substance to impact or penetration resulting from a given energy source.	Fire - pass
7 (e) EIDS External Fire Test Close to SCB-test (Stanag 4491)	Test to determine the reaction of the explosive substance to external fire when the material is confined.	Pressure burst – pass
7 (f) EIDS Slow Cook-off Test Close to SCB-test (Stanag 4491)	Test to determine the reaction of the explosive substance in an environment in which the temperature is gradually increased to 365 °C.	Pressure burst – pass

# New generation Influence Mine classified as 1.6N

## Performed tests on Influence Mine

Test results from UN Test series 7 (EIDS test result)

TEST	ARTICLE	DESCRIPTION	RESULT
7 (g) 1.6 Article External Fire Test	Complete influence mine	Test to determine whether there is a mass explosion or a hazard from dangerous projections, radiant heat and/or violent burning when involved in a fire.	Burning - pass
7 (h) 1.6 Article Slow Cook-off Test	Complete influence mine	Test to determine the reaction of the article in an environment in which the temperature is gradually increased to 365 °C.	Burning - pass
7 (j) 1.6 Article Bullet Impact Test	Tests performed on sea mine and separately on booster	Test to determine the degree of reaction of the article to impact or penetration resulting from a given energy source.	<u>FPX R1 booster:</u> Burning – pass <u>Sea mine:</u> Burning - pass
7 (k) 1.6 Article Stack Test	Complete influence mine	Test to determine whether a detonation of an article, as offered for transport, will initiate a detonation in an adjacent, like article.	30 cm – detonation 40 cm - pass

# New generation Influence Mine classified as 1.6N

## 7 (h) 1.6 Article Slow Cook-off Test



**Result: Burning - Pass**

# New generation Influence Mine classified as 1.6N

## Performed tests on Influence Mine

Test results from UN Test series 7 (EIDS test result)

TEST	ARTICLE	DESCRIPTION	RESULT
7 (g) 1.6 Article External Fire Test	Complete influence mine	Test to determine whether there is a mass explosion or a hazard from dangerous projections, radiant heat and/or violent burning when involved in a fire.	Burning - pass
7 (h) 1.6 Article Slow Cook-off Test	Complete influence mine	Test to determine the reaction of the article in an environment in which the temperature is gradually increased to 365 °C.	Burning - pass
7 (j) 1.6 Article Bullet Impact Test	Tests performed on sea mine and separately on booster	Test to determine the degree of reaction of the article to impact or penetration resulting from a given energy source.	<u>FPX R1 booster:</u> Burning – pass <u>Sea mine:</u> Burning - pass
7 (k) 1.6 Article Stack Test	Complete influence mine	Test to determine whether a detonation of an article, as offered for transport, will initiate a detonation in an adjacent, like article.	30 cm – detonation 40 cm - pass

# New generation Influence Mine classified as 1.6N

## 7 (k) 1.6 Article Stack Test



No propagation at 35cm →  
7(k) tests at 40cm

Booster, SAU with detonator etc.



# New generation Influence Mine classified as 1.6N

IM testing example: SCJ Impact test according to STANAG 4526

TEST	RESULT
SCJ Impact test according to STANAG 4526	Deflagration/burning - pass



66mm hollow charge

# New generation Influence Mine classified as 1.6N

Transport and storage configuration



# New generation Influence Mine classified as 1.6N

## Current status

The concept has been discussed with the Finnish Safety and Chemicals Agency and also with the Finnish Transport Safety Agency. The Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals) had this topic on their agenda during their meeting in Geneva November 2017. There was an international consensus, providing that if all the tests required has been performed acceptably, the classification to 1.6N would be possible for the system. According to the decision of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, the package type (ADR P101) does not exclude the possibility to classify the article as 1.6N.



**New generation Influence Mine classified as 1.6N**

Thank you!

Questions?