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**Review & Update of STANAG 4526 Shaped
Charge Jet, Munitions Test Procedure**

**International Explosive Safety Symposium &
Exposition
San Diego, CA
6-9 Aug 2018**

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Review and update of STANAG 4526 Shaped Charge Jet, Munitions Test Procedure

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- Dr. Ernest Baker has retired from the US Army ARDEC and has taken a position with MSIAC NATO Headquarters.

- Mr. Manfred Becker has retired with MSIAC NATO Headquarters.



The STANAG was outdated and lost relevance. As a result, each member nation has been creating and adopting their own standards to meet their needs. The STANAG:

- Referenced US Rockeye Shaped Charge, which is no longer used by any member nation
- Used values of Held's Criteria (v2d) for various shaped charges that can not be verified



Multiple international meetings were held, including a technical workshop under the auspices of NATO's Munitions Safety Information Analysis Center (MSIAC):

One Workshop was held:

- ENSTA Bretagne Brest France 12 – 15 May, 2014

Two Custodial Working Group meetings were held:

- Brest, France 16 May, 2014
- Bofors Test Center, Karlskoga, Sweden 03 September 2014.

And two Update Meetings in conjunction with the Response Descriptors Working Group Meeting were held:

- Brussels, Belgium, NATO headquarters September 2015
- Brussels, Belgium, NATO headquarters April 2016.
- STANAG 4526 will be replaced by an Allied Ordinance Publication (AOP 4526) to allow for more efficient future updates.



- Bomblet – removed
- Rockeye – removed
- Ballistic Pendulum – removed as an option from official test
- Anti-Tank Missile – removed
- Old, inaccurate v^2d table – removed
- Most member nations had adopted some form of RPG threat



Typical Shaped Charges used by MSIAC Member Nations

Nation	Shaped Charge	Threat Level	Jet Velocity (mm/ μ s)	Jet Diameter (mm)	V ² D (mm/ μ s)	Specified in IM Policy	Laboratory/ in service *
France	CCEB 62 (Former Version)	RPG-7	8	3	203	Yes	Laboratory
	CCEB 62 (New Version)	RPG-7	To be assessed	To be assessed	To be assessed	Yes	Laboratory
Germany	KB44	Bomblet	8	1.9	122**		Laboratory
	RPG 7 NB	RPG-7	7.2	3.1	166**	Yes	Laboratory
Netherlands	Small Bomblets	Bomblet					In Service
Sweden	RPG-7's	RPG-7					In Service
United Kingdom	BL 755	Bomblet				No	In Service
	M42	Bomblet				No	In Service
	K4	RPG-7				Yes	Laboratory
USA	81 mm SC	RPG-7	6.4	3.5	141	Yes	Laboratory

Typical Shaped Charges used by MSIAC Member Nations

*In Service means that the shaped charge is produced in large scale

**The jet tip is not considered



- Uses the RPG-7 as a representative threat.
- Maintains the current French and US test standards that should be well defined in the STANAG.
- Maintains the use of actual RPG-7 warheads, although is not to be suggested in the STANAG due to the variability of these charges.
- Defines jet characteristics and test configurations for new tests using the RPG-7 threat.
- RPG-7 surrogate drawing should include:
 - Standoff associated with the test configuration, including the position of conditioning plate relative to the warhead.
 - A minimum air gap behind the conditioning plate and the test item.
- Allow a THA based variation.



The new AOP has been prepared. The US and French testing ANNEX's have been included. General criteria for the tests that met the STANAG are:

- **Jet Characteristic Requirements**

- The jet will penetrate a conditioning plate of suitable thickness to remove the first part of the jet.
- Jet diameter at the target impact position shall be 2.5 - 3.5mm.
- v^2d shall be between 120 and 140 $\text{mm}^3/\mu\text{s}^2$.

- **Breakup characteristics**

- Jet length, breakup times and accumulated jet mass may be measured for information.



Shaped Charge Requirements

- The shaped charge will be produced in a precise manner assuring that all components are properly located and that the charge is axially symmetric.
- A jet straightness exhibiting less than $\frac{1}{2}$ of a jet diameter deviation at a 20 charge diameter standoff is desired.
- The explosive charge diameter should be larger than 60mm and less than 95mm with an explosive fill performance between COMP B and Pure HMX at TMD.
- The charge liner shall be made from a high quality oxygen free copper and its construction described.
- Initiation methods will be specified to assure consistent and strong symmetric initiation.
- The shaped charge shall be designed such that the output after penetrating a conditioning plate matches the performance of a shoulder launched rocket propelled grenade.
- The performance parameters describing the jet shall include the diameter and velocity both at the tip and along the jet. The characterization shall include information as to the placement that replicates the standoff of the RPG threat.



- A Standards Related Document has been written that streamlines updates and consolidate standards across multiple tests reducing duplication.
- AOP 4526 has been completed.
- The NATO Ammunition Safety Group AC326 approved the AOP in April 2018.



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