

Tank Ammunition

INVESTMENT COMPONENT

Modernization

Recapitalization

Maintenance

MISSION

To provide overwhelming lethality overmatch in direct-fire tank ammunition for use in current ground combat weapons platforms.

DESCRIPTION

The current 120mm family of tactical tank ammunition consists of fourth generation kinetic energy, multipurpose, and canister ammunition. Kinetic Energy ammunition lethality is optimized by firing a maximum-weight sub-caliber projectile at the greatest velocity possible. The M829A3 is the only kinetic energy cartridge currently in production for U.S. use, while the older M829A1 and M829A2 remain in inventory. For foreign sales, the Kinetic Energy-Tungsten (KE-W) munition is in production. Multipurpose ammunition uses a high-explosive warhead to provide blast, armor penetration, and fragmentation effects. There are three high-explosive cartridges in the current inventory: M830A1, M830, and M908 Obstacle Reduction. The M830A1 completed production in FY09. The shotgun shell-

like M1028 canister cartridge provides the Abrams tank with effective, rapid, lethal fire against massed assaulting infantry and is also used in training. The 120mm family has two dedicated training cartridges in production: M865 and M1002. The M831A1, a dedicated 120mm training cartridge, is also in inventory.

To support the Stryker force, the 105mm Mobile Gun System uses the new M393A3 high-explosive and M1040 canister cartridges. The M393A3 cartridge destroys hardened enemy bunkers and creates openings through which infantry can pass. The M1040 canister cartridge provides rapid, lethal fire against massed assaulting infantry at close range and is also used in training. Also in production is the M467A1 training cartridge, which is ballistically matched to the M393A3 cartridge. Tactical rounds in inventory include the M900 kinetic energy (KE) and the M456A2 High Explosive Anti-Tank (HEAT) cartridges. Training rounds in inventory include the M724 and M490A1 cartridges.

SYSTEM INTERDEPENDENCIES

The Abrams Main Battle Tank can fire 120mm ammunition; The Stryker Mobile Gun System can fire 105mm ammunition.

PROGRAM STATUS

- **FY08:** M829A3, M830, M830A1, M1002 and M908, M1028, M1040, M393A3, M467A1 are all fielded

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

- **FY10:** The M829A3, M830A1, M467A1, and M1028 will no longer be in production

ACQUISITION PHASE

Technology Development

Engineering & Manufacturing Development

Production & Deployment

Operations & Support

Tank Ammunition

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

M831A1 and M865: Iraq

CONTRACTORS

M830A1, M1002, M1028, M865, and M467A1:

Alliant Techsystems (Plymouth, MN)

M1002, M865, and KEW:

General Dynamics Ordnance and Tactical Systems (St. Petersburg, FL)

M393A3 and M1040:

L-3 Communications (Lancaster, PA)

120mm, 105mm Training & Tactical Ammunition

