Less lethal System, the FN303 approach

In 1994, as the result of increasing demand for Less than Lethal Systems, FN Herstal decided to develop products addressed at this market segment. After initial in-depth analysis it became clear that the only viable approach to achieving early and reliable product availability could be summarized in the question "what is it possible to do with existing technologies?". These technologies were closely studied with a view to their rapid integration in a real 'less than lethal' concept and, in collaboration with an American partner, the FN 303 concept was developed.

FN303 concept:

- Use of compressed air to launch projectiles
- Semi-automatic weapon with 15 round projectiles
- A canister capacity adaptable to the customers requirements (60 to 120 rounds)
- Standalone configuration or underbarrel version for F2000 or FNC or M4/16
- A large ammunition product range including medium or long range projectiles, training, marker, Pepper, malodorant, teargas, illuminating, ...
- Effective range from 5/10m to 100 m with long range ammo
- A Ph = 0.75 at 100m and 0.9 at 75m
- Developed according to US Joint Non Lethal Directorate requirements in collaboration with Non Lethal Battle Laboratories.

Technical Data:

- Muzzle velocity : 88 m/s
- Length: 74 cm
- Barrel length: 25 cm
- Weight: 2,3 kg (Standalone)
- Bottle capacity: 110 shots

- Magazine capacity: 15 projectiles
- Safety manual

Main benefits

- Efficiency:

Guarantees a maximun of effects on impact. The shock due to 29 Joules (15J/cm²) kinetic impact at 15m instantly stops the suspect.

- Dedication to less-lethality

No confusion possible as the FN303 has been designed to shoot exclusively less lethal projectiles.

- User-friendly

Easy to use, with a little recoil, it allows faster reaction under stress.

- Short safety distance (1m)

Low risk of permanent injuries even at very short range.

- Flexible

With its broad range of projectiles and accessories, it is a solution for any scenario where less lethal force is an option.

- Better accuracy

Effective range: 50m Maximum range: up to 100m

The FN 303 is a new concept, developed for crowd control and riot prevention which gives the user very considerable flexibility in respect of ammunition payloads and muzzle energy.



Fig 1: FN303 stand alone version



Fig 2: FN303 underbarrel version, M16