Artillery Ammunition

MISSION
Provides field artillery forces with modernized munitions to destroy, neutralize, or suppress the enemy by cannon fire.

DESCRIPTION
The Army’s artillery ammunition program includes 75mm (used for ceremonies and simulated firing), 105mm, and 155mm projectiles and their associated fuzes and propelling charges.

Semi-fixed ammunition for short and intermediate ranges, used in 105mm howitzers, is characterized by adjusting the number of multiple propelling charges. Semi-fixed ammunition for long ranges contains a single bag of propellant optimized for obtaining high velocity and is not adjustable. The primer is an integral part of the cartridge case, and is located in the base. All 105mm cartridges are issued in a fuzed or unfuzed configuration. Both cartridge configurations are packaged with propellant.

Separate-loading ammunition, used in 155mm howitzers, has separately issued projectiles, fuzes, propellant charges, and primers. After installing the appropriate fuze on the projectile, the fuzed projectile is loaded into the cannon along with the appropriate amount of propellant charges and a primer.

The artillery ammunition program includes fuzes for cargo-carrying projectiles, such as smoke, illumination, dual-purpose improved conventional munitions, and bursting projectiles, such as high explosives. This program also includes bag propellant for the 105mm semi-fixed cartridges and modular artillery charge system for 155mm howitzers.

SYSTEM INTERDEPENDENCIES
None

PROGRAM STATUS
• 2QFY09: Completed type classification of the 105mm M1064 Infrared (IR) Illumination cartridge

PROJECTIONS ACTIVITIES
• 3QFY11: Complete full materiel release of the 155mm M1066 IR Illumination projectile
• 4QFY11: Complete full materiel release of the 105mm M1130 pre-formed fragmentation high-explosive (HE) cartridge
• 4QFY11: Complete full materiel release of the 155mm M1122 HE training projectile
FOREIGN MILITARY SALES
Australia, Canada, Israel, Lebanon

CONTRACTORS
General Dynamics Ordnance and Tactical Systems—Scranton Operations
(Scranton, PA)
General Dynamics Ordnance and Tactical Systems (Valleyfield, Québec, Canada)
Alliant Techsystems (Radford, VA)
American Ordnance (Middletown, IA)
Esterline Defense Technologies (Coachella, CA)