Artillery Ammunition

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

DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATIONS

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. Fifty-caliber maximum range semi-fixed ammunition 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 on the base. Fuzed 105mm projectiles are issued in a package containing the fuze, projectile, propellant, and primer. Unfuzed 105mm projectiles are issued in a package containing the projectile, propellant, and primer. The fuze is issued separately.

Separate-loading ammunition, used in 155mm howitzers, has separately issued projectiles, fuzes, propellants, and primers, which are loaded into the cannon separately.

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

PROGRAM STATUS
• **Current** Production and fielding

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES
• **FY05** M915105mm DPICM begin low-rate initial production
• **FY05** MACS M232A1 high zone optimized for the 155mm/39-caliber howitzer-type classification
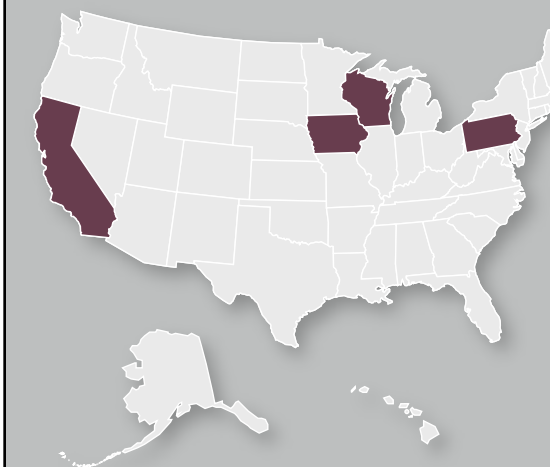
CONTRACTORS
Chamberlain (Scranton, PA)
SNC Technologies (LeGardeur, Canada)
American Ordnance (Middletown, IA)
Alliant Tech (Janesville, WI)
Armtec Defense (Palm Springs, CA)

INVESTMENT COMPONENT
Modernization

ACQUISITION PHASE
• Production and Deployment