

NDIA Future Force Capabilities Live Fire Demo Safety

Range Safety is the primary concern for this event!

Please read carefully the NDIA-specific Range Safety Rules and Procedures below as **any infractions will forfeit** your company's participation at future events. The below listed NDIA-specific Range Safety Rules and Procedures are in addition to those of the host range facility.

Eye and Ear Protection

Bring your own eye and ear protection and enough eye protection for demonstration attendees on your firing point(s). Demonstration attendees will be allowed to shoot your products during the demonstration, but only if they have eye and ear protection in place on the firing line. NDIA will provide ear plugs for attendees.

Range Clean-up

ALL demonstrators are responsible for removing all targets and target debris, brass/spent cases, links, miscellaneous debris, and demo materials from the area around their assigned firing point and the range before departure. **There are NO EXCEPTIONS to this rule.** Failure to do so will result in a ban on participating in future NDIA live fire events. RSO's (Range Safety Officers) will clear each vendor from the range after cleaning up and before departure. Early departure from the demonstration range is highly discouraged.

Range Safety Rules

Range Safety is the primary concern for all participants in this event. Any violations of General, NDIA-specific and/or host range facility Range Safety Rules will result in immediate exclusion from the demonstration and forfeiture to participate in future NDIA live fire events. Violations include but are not limited to:

- Pointing weapons in an unsafe direction (anywhere but down range) at any time (to include if/when you brief/show your weapons to the attendees!).
- Not providing sufficient (close by, within arm's length) one-on-one supervision of non-company personnel (attendees) firing weapons on your firing point(s); think Firing Coach!!
- Not clearing weapons immediately and completely when told to do so.
- Firing outside the assigned range limits.
- Negligent damage of the range or range apparatus. Any damage to range facilities or apparatus caused by negligence of the demonstrating organization or those persons operating demonstration items at that organization's firing point(s) may result in additional repair costs being incurred by the participating organization.
- Not ensuring all firers on your firing point(s) always use eye and ear protection when firing your weapons.

Any unsafe acts witnessed by NDIA RSO's and the host range facility RSO's and OIC (Officer in Charge). **Warnings are optional!** NDIA RSO's and the host range facility RSO's/OIC have full authority to exclude and remove violators from the demonstration and range facilities

without prior warning.

All Remote Weapon Stations (RWS's), Remotely Operated Weapon (ROW's) systems and/or robots armed with weapons must include the following:

- Instantaneous remote disarm/shutdown switch (1 each Operator and Range Safety Officer)
- Limiting stakes/mechanism to prevent the device from turning the weapon(s) more than 45 degrees off the downrange azimuth.
- Touching or handling ANY weapon when anyone is down range or any time after a "Cease Fire" is called.

Additional Range Safety Procedures

Grounded Range – The live-fire event will be conducted as a "grounded range". All weapons will remain in a cleared condition with all muzzle online pointing downrange. No weapons will be kept behind the firing line unless they are cleared and cased. Request permission from an RSO before moving any weapon off the firing line prior to the conclusion of the live-fire event.

Space Allocation – this is a spacious range environment, but please coordinate with RSO and Gravestone Staff for modifications and accommodation. All demonstrators are asked to arrive at the firing range as indicated above prior to the scheduled start of the live-fire event. Last minute arrivals may be prohibited from participation by NDIA RSO's. As per NDIA policy all demonstration personnel must be registered attendees or exhibitors to participate in NDIA live fire as a demonstrator.

Ready Line – All event attendees not on the firing line operating demo weapons will remain behind the "Ready Line" until they are called to move forward by demonstration personnel. Extra demonstrator gear, cases, ammo should be neatly stacked at the Ready Line to reduce trip hazards and clutter on the Firing Line. Attendees can fill magazines and belts at the Ready Line and don eye protection while they wait to move forward.

Cleared Weapons – A weapon is considered "Clear" only when the muzzle is pointed down range, the safety is engaged (where applicable), the feed device (magazine, belt, drum, round, etc.) is removed/opened, the breech mechanism (bolt, slide, cylinder, etc.) is locked open and/or flagged and the breech/chamber is empty.

Cease Fire – Anyone can call a "Cease Fire" if they witness an unsafe act. Upon hearing the command "Cease Fire" completely clear and ground all weapons (ejection ports facing up and/or chamber visible) and step back from the firing line so the RSO's have easy access to inspect all weapons along the firing line. You will be told when you may handle weapons and continue firing by the RSO's.

Scheduled Breaks – At predetermined times RSO's will call a "Cease Fire" to induce periodic breaks in the firing schedule to allow for weapon cooling, target repair, firing point reset, magazine loading, etc. There will be no firing during these breaks. Breaks can be used to brief attendees on demo items. During this time, you may wish to have attendees help police up brass

around your firing point. During breaks follow these rules:

DO NOT handle or touch weapons if anyone is down range.

DO NOT go forward of the Firing Line unless instructed to do so by the RSO's.

Attendee Firing – Demonstration personnel are responsible for the safe conduct of all visiting attendee firers at their firing point. Closely monitor and support any full auto fire, short-barreled weapon operation and appropriate target engagements down range. The use of partially filled magazines, belts or drums for attendees is encouraged to expedite shooter rotation and weapon cooling. Demonstrating organizations are encouraged to bring additional ammo for attendee firing.

Donated Ammunition - Donated ammunition may be provided in support of the live- fire event and will be equally distributed to those demonstrators wishing to expend it. Under no circumstance will this ammunition be removed from the range without expressed permission of the NDIA RSO's.

Misfired Ammunition – DO NOT place misfired (“dud”) ammunition in with live ammunition, live or dud ammunition in with brass/spent cases or range debris. Provide all misfires or damaged live ammunition to the RSO's at the close of the live-fire event for proper and safe disposal.

Special Requests – The use of special ammunition (AP, AP-I, HE, Multi-purpose, R&D, etc.) or exploding/pyrotechnic targets during the live-fire event will not be allowed. Notice concerning ammunition limitations and restrictions will be provided to demonstration personnel in advance of the live-fire. Special demonstration requests (shooting on the move, unique weapon handling, special target set-ups) should be conveyed in advance to NDIA RSO's for preapproval to ensure safety for all demonstration participants and spectators. **When in doubt, ask first.** Begging for forgiveness after the incident, while entertaining may get you banned from future NDIA live-fire events and or liable for damage and re-constitution.

Material Limits – DO NOT attempt to push your demonstration items beyond their material limits (cook-off rate, barrel failure limits, etc.). Anything you attempt during your demonstration should be well within the design and performance limits of the item and the materials used in its construction, cleared by the manufacturer and performed successfully prior to the NDIA live-fire event.

Mandatory Demonstrator Briefings –

The First –on Thursday, October 2, 2:45pm, at the Fort Worth Convention Center, in Grand Ballroom A, prior to weapon handling by all demonstrator personnel. ALL demonstrator personnel must attend this mandatory Range Safety Briefing before any firing begins.

The Second – This final Range Safety Briefing will be conducted when the attendees arrive at the range facility before they move away from the buses. **ALL personnel (demonstrators, attendees and RSO's) must attend.** These procedures above may seem redundant or excessive

to some but are required by the host range facility that is providing access to their firing ranges for our event. Most often it is the one person or persons who does not attend the Safety Briefing that violates established range safety rules and procedures. ***Don't be that person!***

Drugs and Alcohol Use

The use of drugs and/or alcoholic beverages by demonstrator personnel is strictly prohibited before or during NDIA live-fire events.

Non-Compatible Ammunition and Weapons

Keep non compatible ammunition away from non-compatible weapons (e.g. separate 9mm from .40 S&W, 300 BlkOut from 5.56mm, etc.) to prevent safety issues. These rounds look alike, and the magazines and weapons also, to the novice shooters who will visit your firing point.

We are a Team. Please be flexible and Cooperative

Please be respectful and helpful to the Range Safety Personnel and host range facility personnel. They are volunteers helping to ensure an organized, safe and successful live- fire event for all participants. Unsafe and/or uncooperative demonstration personnel will be removed from the range facility and banned from future NDIA live-fire events.

Please be flexible as there will be unavoidable last-minute changes.

Questions concerning the contents of this document should be directed to the NDIA Small Arms Committee Range Safety Officers Mark Owens (mowens@tvammo.com, 704-408-7357)

The fundamental rules of safe gun handling are your responsibility!