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of Defence

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DSEA DOSR RANGE SAFETY NOTICE 15-02

| USE OF STEEL TARGETS ON MoD LAND RANGES | |
|---|---|
| Who should read this: | All Service and civilian personnel involved with the management and conduct of MoD Land Ranges. |
| Category: | Regulation. |
| Cancellation date: | When rescinded or replaced. |
| Point of contact: | DSEA-DOSR-DUDLRS1@mod.uk |

Reference:

A. JSP403 Volume 2 Design, Construction and Maintenance of Small Arms, Infantry Weapon Systems and 40mm Weapon Systems Ranges.

Safety issue

1. There is evidence of steel targets being brought into service without following the process in JSP 403. The introduction of new infrastructure / equipment, including targetry, is to follow the correct process for use on MoD Land Ranges for sniper training. These targets have not been tested or approved formally within the safe system of training.

Control measures to be implemented

2. Steel targets may be used on MoD Land Ranges under the conditions below.
3. **Composition.** Targets are to be flat, manufactured from 10mm steel RHA¹ or 500 ABRO². Targets are to be inspected before use for damage either by pitting or piercing. Damaged targets will present a greater ricochet hazard and therefore should be deployed no closer than 300m to any persons.
4. **Use.** Steel targets are only authorised for the following:
 - a. Trained snipers or snipers undergoing a formal training course.
 - b. Use with 7.62mm or 8.59mm ammunition only. The use of tracer, ballistic tip or steel bullets is prohibited. Armour piercing may be utilised if the range template permits but target attrition will increase.
 - c. A hard target template is to be applied.

¹ Rolled Homogeneous Armour.

² Higher abrasion resistant steel plate with a hardness of 500 HBW (Hardness Brinell Tungsten Carbide Ball Indenter).

- d. Single, methodical shots only.
 - e. Steel targets may only be deployed on a LFTTA range that has a MoD Form 904 with the specified practice, calibre and ME. They are not to be used indoors.
 - f. They are not to be used on mechanical target lifters.
5. **Deployment.** Targets are to be sited:
- a. With a **minimum** 300m engagement range.
 - b. Within the danger area utilising the hard target template.
 - c. In a 25m exclusion zone from all other electro-mechanical target lifters and infrastructure that may be subject to unacceptable damage.
 - d. Targets are to be presented perpendicular (90 degrees) to the line of shot and as far as possible offer the face of the target in order to allow maximum engagement angle (i.e. normal to the target).

Targetry design criteria

6. MoD Land Range users are reminded that only approved targetry listed in Chapter 29 of Reference A may be employed. The safety of a range may be compromised if unapproved targetry is used and is therefore prohibited.

Prepared: Sec LRSSC

Date: 13 Mar 15

Authorised: Chairman LRSSC

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