



Technical Newsletter From
Your Ballistic Technicians
Volume 4, No. 2

Mid-Year New Product Announcement

.30 Caliber, 85 grain Round Nose
SportsMaster Handgun Bullet

In response to shooter demand, Sierra has designed the new .308 diameter, 85 grain round nose SportsMaster bullet suited for use in the .30 Mauser, 7.62 x 25 Tokarev, .30 Luger, and similar cartridges.

While thousands of 7.62 x 25 Tokarev's have been imported in the US in the last few years, only imported berdan primed ammo was available. With the availability of quality brass from Starline, this bullet is certain to be popular. This bullet is recommended for use in Handguns ONLY. The stock number for this new bullet is #8005 and is available now.



My Rifle Won't Chamber My Handloads!

By Dave Brown

There are various reasons why a rifle won't chamber handloads! The most common cause involves the case having been fired in a gun with a chamber that allowed the case to expand to a point greater than the dies can correct to allow smooth chambering in a somewhat tight chamber. Small base dies can sometimes correct this.

Another common cause is the bullet

Some chambers exhibit varying degree of ovalness. Cases may not chamber easily or at all. It is as if the case has become a key that cannot be inserted into its slot unless indexed exactly the way the case was fired previously. Full length sizing will help most situations involving oval chambers.

A fifth cause involves the combination of a tight chamber and a full-length die that's a bit wide in diameter yet short in height to the shoulder. Here the tip off is the handloader discovering that the case chambers fine after firing no matter how it

hitting the rifling. Seat the bullet deeper.

A third reason can involve brass that was always shot in the same chamber, but has outgrown it. The die and shell-holder combination are not allowing the die to push back the shoulder. The shell-holder is either too tall or the die too long. This sometimes occurs when the die and shell-holder are not the same brand. A new shell-holder can often be the answer. At times it may be necessary to replace the die, or remove metal from the mouth of the die or top of the shoulder to enable the die to push the case shoulder back enough to chamber.

A fourth case involves the eccentricity of the chamber, and is most noticeable when neck-sizing.

IMSSU

by Tommy Todd

For the silhouette shooter (both rifle and handgun) there is a new match you can shoot: IMSSU, the International Metallic Silhouette Shooters Union. This organization promotes all silhouette disciplines by having an international match every two years. IMSSU was founded in 1992 and the first match was held in 1994 at Grasse, France with 13 countries participating. The 2nd World Championships were held in South Africa last year (1996). The participation had grown to 17 countries. The 1998 and 2000 championships are scheduled for Finland and Australia, respectively.

Ray Schnarre of Missouri and George Lively of Nebraska both competed in South Africa in 1996. Schnarre is the current World Champion in Heavy Rifle (centerfire), while Lively finished third. In Hunter Rifle, Schnarre and Lively finished 2nd and 4th, respectively.

Negotiations are pending between the IMSSU and our own NRA for cooperation. Hopefully in the 1998 match the United States will be an IMSSU member and field an official team, possibly paving the way

is indexed; but, will either be sticky, difficult, or impossible to chamber after sizing. The shoulder is pushed back. Lacking support, the diameter increases beyond what the tight chamber will allow. Backing the die off the shoulder will help the problem. A full-length die with a tighter diameter is a better answer to prevent the case walls from sticking while chambering.

Other causes that are less encountered but always of concern due to the danger they bring are high primers, tight necked chambers, and cases that have their mouths pressed hard against the end of the chamber.

Phone Numbers-Why We Ask

by Rich Machholz

I'm sure some of you wonder why we are so diligent in asking for a phone number when we're putting your name on the X-Ring mailing list. The reason is simple and straight forward. We quote data during phone conversation. If, after the call, we have a question or develop new information relating to your question, we'd like to be able to call you back. This rarely happens, but it is in the best interest of all if we can. We don't publish the numbers, confidentiality is assured, and we'll probably never call. If we do, it will be important. Please bear with us.

for a future World Championship to be held in the U.S.A.

Headspacing for Proper Chambering

by Dave Brown

A caller will sometimes ask how far to set back the shoulder of a case after fire-forming. They want to set the shoulder of new brass to a best fit for particular chamber. Some loaders think that .002' less than SAAMI zero is correct. Others realize that the chamber could be longer, but assume one firing will always bring the shoulder to the end of the chamber.

Answering this I have to say chambers do vary in length to the shoulder and in diameter. Neither one firing nor seven may make it necessary for the shoulder to be set back at all. Temper of the brass, pressure of the load, dimensions and concentricity of the chamber all go together to determine what if any sizing is needed. Cases that will not fully chamber with ease need to be sized so they can.

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