Today’s Soldier faces a complex and ever-changing operational environment, ranging from urban, populated areas to mountainous, desolate terrain. These conditions provide only a fleeting shot at best, make it extremely difficult to engage hostiles in defilade or exposed because of a lack of assets, and pose the perennial risk of collateral damage. Due to the inability of small units to engage hostile targets in defilade with organic assets, many small units rely on non-organic assets (mortars, artillery, and air support) and compete for priority of fires only when time becomes critical.

The XM25 Counter Defilade Target Engagement System (CDTE) enables the small unit and individual Soldier to engage these targets by providing a 25mm airbursting capability that can be used throughout the operational environment. The CDTE is a direct-fire, semi-automatic, shoulder-fired, man-portable weapon system that can rapidly engage defilade and exposed targets at ranges and accuracies not seen in today’s small arms. It allows the individual Soldier to quickly and accurately engage targets by producing an adjusted aimpoint based on range, environmental factors, and user inputs. An individual Soldier employing basic rifle marksmanship skills can effectively engage exposed or defilade targets in less than five seconds.

The XM25 CDTE is extremely effective because three components have been designed, optimized, and integrated to achieve unrivaled airburst capability. Critical to the system is the ability of the Target Acquisition/Fire Control (TA/FC) to accurately detect, and determine range to targets under the full spectrum of operational conditions, as well as calculate an optimal ballistic solution to engage defilade or exposed targets. The TA/FC programs the ammunition via a wiring harness in the weapon and airbursts at the predetermined range. The shoulder-fired weapon can deliver a 25mm airbursting round at a velocity sufficient to engage point defilade or exposed targets out to 500 meters.

In addition to airbursting ammunition, a family of ammunition is being developed to support other missions, which could include armor-piercing and nonlethal scenarios.
Specifications

Defeats exposed and defilade targets

Point target range of 500 meters

Area target range of 700 meters

- Semi-automatic magazine fed weapons system
- Fully integrated day/night full solution target acquisition/fire control
- 25mm family of ammunition
- System weight - 12-12.5 pounds
- System length - 29.5 inches

Lightweight material composites