



SHOTGUN BREACHING TECHNIQUES

COURSE OVERVIEW AND INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

COURSE LENGTH: 8 Hours (1 Day)
4 Hours Classroom
4 Hours Practical

COURSE OVERVIEW

Designed for personnel who have the responsibility to perform shotgun breaching using frangible / disintegrating projectiles in support of police tactical operations. Classroom instruction and live-fire practical application of learned skills will be conducted.

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

Upon completion of this course the attendee will be familiar with:

1. How shotgun breaching can enhance the overall forced entry capability of a tactical unit
2. Currently available commercially manufactured frangible shotshells
3. The capabilities and limitations of shotgun breaching
4. Specialized breaching shotguns and modified versions of standard-issue shotguns
5. Safely deploying, engaging and defeating selected targets with frangible shotshells



SHOTGUN BREACHING TECHNIQUES DAY TO DAY / HOUR TO HOUR AGENDA

DAY ONE

0800-0830	Course Administration
0830-0900	Breaching Shotguns and Required Modifications
0900-0930	Types of Frangible Projectiles Currently Available
0930-1030	Breaching Techniques
1030-1130	Tactics Associated with Implementing Shotgun Breaching
1130-1200	Developing a Shotgun Breaching SOP
1200-1300	Lunch (not provided)
1300-1630	Practical Application
1630-1700	Equipment Accountability, Course close-out



SHOTGUN BREACHING TECHNIQUES

COURSE OUTLINE

- I. Preface
 - A. Course Overview
 - B. Instructional Goals
 - C. Agenda
 - D. Outline
 - E. Co-Host Logistics
 - F. Instructors
 - G. Administrative Functions
 - i. Facility Orientation
 - ii. Student Rosters / Notebooks / Handouts
 - H. Safety Briefing
 - i. All Weapons are Always Loaded
 - ii. Never Point a Weapon at Something you are not Willing to Destroy
 - iii. Keep your Trigger Finger Along the Frame Until your Sights are on Target and you are Ready to Fire
 - iv. Be Sure of your Target and Beyond

- II. Breaching Shotguns
 - A. Purchased or Retrofitted
 - B. 12 Gauge
 - i. Pump Action or Semi-Automatic
 - ii. Pistol-Gripped
 - C. Stand-Off Device
 - i. Threaded Type
 - ii. Clamp-On Style
 - iii. Purpose
 - 1. Allow Projectile to Clear the End of the Barrel Prior to Striking the Target
 - 2. Vents Pressure
 - 3. Reduces Recoil
 - 4. Serrated Type Increases Accuracy
 - D. Options
 - i. Bungee-Style Sling (Tactical Quick Sling)
 - ii. Pressure Activated Fore-End Light (Surefire)
 - iii. Sidesaddle Ammunition Carrier



III. Frangible Projectiles

- A. Definition – Shotgun rounds (often referred to as “Avon Rounds”) that are made of a variety of frangible materials, and are designed to disintegrate upon impact with the target, reducing the likelihood of over-penetration.
- B. Uses
 - i. Locking Mechanisms / Deadbolts / Hinges
 - ii. Tires
 - iii. Vicious Animals
 - iv. Suspects
 - v. EOD Applications
- C. Categories
 - i. Commercially Manufactured Rounds
 - 1. Def-Tec “TKO”
 - 2. Combined Tactical Systems “#2570”
 - 3. Royal Arms International “TESAR” (1 Orange, 2 Black, 4 Copper Caps)
 - 4. MK Ballistics “Master Key”

IV. Shotgun Breaching Techniques

- A. Inward Opening Doors
 - i. Locking Mechanisms
 - 1. Stand on the Hinge Side of the Door
 - 2. Place Foot on the Bottom Corner of the Door
 - 3. Place Shotgun Stand-Off Directly Against the Door Just Above Locking Mechanism
 - 4. Aim the Weapon at a 45-degree Angle Down and into the Door Jamb / Frame
 - 5. Destroy the material surrounding the throw of the locking mechanism
 - ii. Hinges
 - 1. Stand On the Door Knob Side of the Door
 - 2. Place Stand-Off Directly Against the Door
 - 3. Aim The Weapon at A 45 Degree Angle Up or Down and into The Door / Frame
 - 4. Destroy The Hinge or Material Surrounding the Hinge
 - 5. Repeat Until All Hinges Have Been Defeated
- B. Outward Opening Doors
 - i. Locking Mechanisms
 - 1. Stand On the Door Knob Side of the Door
 - 2. Place Shotgun Stand-Off Directly Against the Door at The Locking Mechanism
 - 3. Aim The Weapon at A 45-Degree Angle Down and into The Door Jamb / Framed
 - 4. Destroy The Throw of the Lock and Surrounding Material
 - ii. Hinges
 - 1. Stand On the Door Knob Side of the Door
 - 2. Place Stand-Off Directly Against the Door
 - 3. Aim The Weapon at A 45-Degree Angle Up or Down and into The Door / Frame
 - 4. Destroy The Hinge or Material Surrounding the Hinge
 - 5. Repeat Until All Hinges Have Been Defeated



- C. Glass
 - i. Place Shotgun Strand-Off Directly Against the Glass in a Bottom Corner
 - ii. Aim Downward Towards the Floor or Door Jamb
 - iii. Use Haligan to Clear Any Remaining Glass

- V. Developing A Shotgun Breaching Program
 - A. Written Departmental Policy
 - i. Within Existing Use of Force Options
 - ii. Classified as an "Entry Tool" And / or "Special Weapon"
 - iii. Use Exempted from Departmental Shooting Review (If No Injuries)
 - iv. Identifies Who Can Implement the Weapon / Projectiles
 - B. Team SOP
 - i. States How and When the Weapon Is Employed
 - ii. Initial Training and Re-Certification Documentation
 - iii. Provides Guidance On Where Weapons and Rounds Are Stored / Assigned
 - iv. Photo Actual Uses and Gather All Expended Casings at Scene
 - v. Verbiage Used in Departmental Reports and Court Testimony

- VI. Deployment Tactics
 - A. Advantages
 - i. Allows Continual Flow of Entry Team While Maintaining Momentum
 - ii. Allows A Positive Means of Entry While in Confined Interior Hallways, Etc., Where Rams And Other Mechanical Means Are Impractical or Unsafe
 - iii. Gives Operator a Means to Deliver Defensive Lethal Fire, If Necessary
 - iv. Works On Both Inward and Outward Opening Doors
 - B. Determining How the Weapon(S) is Assigned Within the Team Lineup
 - i. Slung by Ram Man or Mechanical Breachers
 - ii. Dedicated Shooter (Breaching Shotgun Is Primary Weapon)
 - iii. Primary and Alternate Shotgun Breachers
 - C. Use On Exterior Primary Point of Entry
 - i. Only When Determined to Be the Most Viable Means
 - ii. May Be Perceived by Suspects as "Hostile" Gunfire
 - iii. Pre-Firing Announcement Conflicts with Standard Knock and Announce Commands
 - D. Firing Sequence
 - i. Locked Door Is Encountered
 - 1. Post and Cover
 - 2. Call for Weapon
 - 3. Unslung / Rotate Weapon into Ready Position
 - 4. Brace Foot On Inward-Opening Door
 - 5. Proper Alignment and Angle
 - 6. Make Announcement (Loud and Concise)
 - 7. Fire and Prepare for Immediate Follow-Up Shot(S)
 - E. If Defeated
 - i. Have Immediate Action Plans
 - 1. Will Vary by Type of Mission (Search Warrant, Hostage Rescue, etc.)
 - 2. Deploy FSDD
 - 3. Retrieve Alternate Tools



4. Port Window to Room from Exterior
 5. Alternate Breach Point
- F. Times Not to Deploy the Weapon
1. Resistance On the Door Knob from Inside
 2. Very Small Enclosures
 3. Children Known to Be Inside
 4. Ensure All Non-SWAT Personnel On Scene (Perimeter Officers, Detectives, K9, Medics, etc.) Are Briefed About the Possible Discharge of the Weapon
- VII. Practical Application Training
- A. Review Range Safety Procedures
- B. Individual Safety Equipment
- i. Ballistic Vest
 - ii. Helmet
 - iii. Nomex Gloves
 - iv. Eye Protection
 - v. Ear Protection
- C. Live-Fire Exercises
- i. Locking Mechanisms / Hinges
 - ii. Various Types of Doors
 1. Inward and Outward Opening
 2. Wood and Metal
 - iii. Humanoid Target Engagement



SHOTGUN BREACHING TECHNIQUES CO-HOST LOGISTIC REQUIREMENTS

CLASSROOM

Adequate seating for up to 34 students with tables, good ventilation
Marker board and markers
Flip chart with paper
Internet Access for all students

AUDIO VISUAL

LCD Projector for computer presentation
Large projection screen (minimum of 6'x6' screen size)
Speaker system to connect to laptop for audio
Extension cord and power strip
AV table or cart

OTHER

Access to copier
Paper targets
Two breaching shotguns with required modifications / attachments
Basic hand tools, cordless drill, first-aid kit

PRACTICAL TRAINING FACILITIES

Training site with 24 intact doors (combination of wood and metal) with functioning locks / deadbolts and hinges

*Suitable mock-up using interchangeable hardware may be acceptable

*An actual building with original door hangings and locks is ideal, since each student will shoot 5 doors and a set of hinges. If building not available, this can be achieved using a door set up so the knob and deadbolt can quickly be changed several times. A 2x6 section is cut out of the door and a metal frame installed around the cut out allowing new knob and deadbolt set ups to slide in. Once the student shoots, the old 2x6 is pulled out and a new 2x6 with new lock sets is slid in.



SHOTGUN BREACHING TECHNIQUES

STUDENT EQUIPMENT LIST

INDIVIDUAL

- Law Enforcement ID
- Tactical uniform / boots
- Ballistic and load-bearing vests
- Helmet
- Ear and eye protection
- Nomex gloves
- Students should bring their breaching shotgun (with stand-off device)
- 10 frangible shotgun rounds per student (any brand acceptable)