

# Small Arms—Individual Weapons

## INVESTMENT COMPONENT

Modernization

Recapitalization

Maintenance

### MISSION

Enables warfighters and small units to engage targets with lethal fire to defeat or deter adversaries.

### DESCRIPTION

The M4 Carbine replaces the M16 series Rifles in all Brigade Combat Teams, Division Headquarters, and other selected units. It is 1.4 pounds lighter and more portable than the M16 series of rifles. The M4 series of carbines can also be mounted with the M203A2 Grenade Launcher, M320 Grenade Launcher, or M26 Modular Accessory Shotgun System (MASS).

The M14 Enhanced Battle Rifle (EBR) has a new adjustable buttstock, cheek rest and M4-style pistol grip, making the rifle effective in both close quarters combat and in the Squad Designated Marksman role. The EBR can be returned to its original configuration with no permanent modifications. Five

thousand M14 EBRs were assembled at TACOM Lifecycle Management Command at Rock Island Arsenal in response to Operational Need Statements requesting a longer range capability. The upgraded weapons are currently in service with select Army units.

The M320 Grenade Launcher is the replacement to all M203 series grenade launchers on M16 Rifles and M4 Carbines. A modular system, it attaches under the barrel of the rifle or carbine and can convert to a stand-alone weapon. The M320 improves on current grenade launchers with an integral day/night sighting system and improved safety features. It also has a side-loading unrestricted breech that allows the system to fire longer 40mm low-velocity projectiles (NATO standard and non-standard).

The lightweight M26 12-Gauge MASS attaches to the M4 Carbine and zeroes to the host weapon. It is also designed to operate as a stand-alone system, and comes with a recoil-absorbing, collapsible buttstock. The Picatinny rail mounted on top allows accessory equipment to

be mounted on the shotgun. The bolt handle is mountable on either side for ambidextrous handling.

The MASS enables Soldiers to transition between lethal and less-than-lethal fires and adds the capability of a separate shotgun without carrying a second weapon. Additional features include a box magazine, flip-up sights, and an extendable stand-off device for door breaching.

### SYSTEM INTERDEPENDENCIES

None

### PROGRAM STATUS

#### M4 Carbine:

- **Current:** Delivery and fielding

#### M14 EBR:

- **3QFY09:** Army Requirements and Resourcing Board approved 5,000 systems
- **1QFY10:** 1,200 additional systems authorized
- **3QFY10:** First 5,000 complete (95 percent fielded)

#### M320 Grenade Launcher Module:

- **1QFY09:** Type classification-standard decisions

- **1QFY09:** Materiel release and full-rate production decision
  - **3QFY09:** First unit equipped
- M26 Modular Accessory Shotgun System:**
- **4QFY09:** Limited user test and evaluation with MP units
  - **2QFY10:** Low-rate initial production approved
  - **4QFY10:** First article testing complete

### PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

#### M4 Carbine:

- **Continue:** M4 production, deliveries, and fielding

#### M14 EBR:

- **4QFY11:** Complete remaining 1,200 systems

#### Continue:

#### M320 Grenade Launcher Module:

- **Continue:** Production and fielding
- **Continue:** Reduce size and weight of day/night sight

#### M26 Modular Accessory Shotgun System:

- **4QFY10–2QFY11:** Ramp up to full rate production
- **2QFY11:** Materiel release
- **3QFY11:** First unit equipped

## ACQUISITION PHASE

Technology Development

Engineering & Manufacturing Development

Production & Deployment

Operations & Support

## Small Arms—Individual Weapons

### FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

#### M4 Carbine:

Bosnia-Herzegovina, Colombia,  
El Salvador, Jordan, Philippines

#### M4A1:

Bahrain, Yemen

### CONTRACTORS

#### M4 Carbine:

Colt's Manufacturing Co. (Hartford, CT)

#### M320 Grenade Launcher Module:

Heckler and Koch Defense Inc.  
(Ashburn, VA)

#### M26 Modular Accessory Shotgun

#### System:

Vertu Corp. (Warrenton, VA)

