

# Stapp Environment Bullet Catcher – The Best Way to Overcome Live Fire Ranges Challenges

In an interview with **MILITARY TECHNOLOGY** **Marcus Moberg, CEO Stapp Investment AB**, comments on the universal need for Stapp for today's successful live ammunition and firearms testing and training programmes.



**Gert Moberg,**  
Inventor  
of Stapp EBC.

the bullet fragments when hitting the berms, it creates lead dust that is carried by wind and also by precipitation that also takes the lead very quickly into the ground water, affecting

people and the natural world around them.

Lead dust is very toxic to personnel who rake the berm's sand, looking for bullets, as well as instructors and personnel that stand behind the shelter, marking target hits.

**MT:** *Stapp is an unusual company, what does it do?*

**M. Moberg:** As a ballistic technology-driven company that has traditional Scandinavian values of integrity, quality, robustness and the environment at the centre of our ethos, we design, develop, build and maintain Stapp Environmental Bullet Catchers. We are a closely held company that invented the Stapp Environmental Bullet Catcher – or "Stapp EBC" holds European and global patents on this unique technology and system. There are no ricochets with the EBC, and it is the only live fire target system of its kind that can safely be fired upon at point blank range.

**MT:** *Will this work with older ranges?*

**M. Moberg:** Absolutely... Stapp EBC is easy to adapt to old ranges as the slope is almost the same as the earth berms still used today. With a 20 year lifetime framework – made from environmentally friendly and recycled materials – and 10 year lifetime for the rubber parts, the Stapp EBC is a very cost effective system. Indeed, there is almost no loss of rubber granules within the Stapp EBC, so it is possible to put them back after rinsing them away from the retrieved bullets. The metal from the bullets are recyclable and the total cost of ownership (TCO) for the Stapp EBC is very, very low.

**MT:** *Why is there a need for Stapp?*

**M. Moberg:** Stapp EBC – is the only bullet catcher that collects bullets at outdoor shooting ranges and keeps them encapsulated without leaking lead and other associated toxins to the environment.

Many ranges are situated in places close to ground water outlets whereby very poisonous lead and perhaps other metals can cause long term illness, developmental problems in children, and reproduction problems. Recent reports from America show that military bases have become suspected sources for rises in health problems – perhaps some associated with contaminated ground water, and air from test ranges. Anything that can be done to stem this should be a welcomed improvement.

The dirt berms at live fire ranges leak lead both inside the berm and on the surface. As

**MT:** *What makes Stapp EBC unique?*

**M. Moberg:** First, the Stapp EBC is very easy to install and maintain; 1-2 weeks job for a typical installation; and only 3-5 days to sift bullets from a range of 100 targets and to make "seamless patches" over "Hot spots." Moreover, we can even train and certify a customer's own maintenance team to properly care for the Stapp EBC.

Second, cost-saving aspects and low TCO; no special cover is needed over the "Catcher" as the top rubber surface is proprietarily formulated with weather protection to withstand extreme temperatures from -28 Celsius up to +80 Celsius.

Third, you can recycle the bullets and the Stapp EBC materials without harmful effects to personnel, the air, or water supply.

Fourth, it is easy to separate bullets from the Stapp EBC as they are not pulverised and can be sifted from the reusable granulate within the catcher that is 10 x lighter. The granulate is returned safely into the Stapp EBC without need for additional filler.

There are more reasons to buy a Stapp EBC, but these are the main advantages our customers are looking for.

**MT:** *Who is using Stapp?*

**M. Moberg:** Swedish and Danish Army have changed all their bullet catchers to the Stapp EBC catchers. Since 2000, when we started, Stapp is still continuing to grow and gain acceptance in many other markets as well; Sweden has 126 and Denmark has 46, Norway 6, USA 6 where Cape Cod has given Stapp Bullet Catcher the highest grade possible by Boston Government.

The US and Europe remain immediate growth markets for the Stapp EBC – although, there are particular benefits for other regions too. Because of the US's wide range of temperatures, large professional military and civil order forces, and the need to have an environmentally sound and ballistically safe product available.

**MT:** *Who else can use Stapp – sport shooting event organisers, ammunition manufacturers, live fire test ranges, ballistic test facilities?*

## Stapp EBC

As a ballistic technology-driven company that has traditional Scandinavian values of integrity, quality, robustness and the environment at the centre of their ethos, Stapp Investment AB designs, develops, builds, and maintains Stapp Environmental Bullet Catchers (EBC), holding European and global patents on this unique technology and system.

**M. Moberg:** The Stapp EBC is universal in its appropriateness for a host of applications and situations. The Stapp EBC performs extremely well with pointed and rounded tip ammunition. Depending on ammo, this catcher is normally 500mm deep and that stops 9,0mm, 5,56mm, 7,62 mm, but with adding extra depth we can handle 12,7mm without any problems. "Wad cutters" and similar rounds are more damaging and require additional maintenance. However, the Stapp EBC is only Bullet Catcher of its kind that can handle Tracers without catching fire. Stapp EBC's patented design means the Bullet Catcher is a sealed unit; hence, not enough air gets in to feed a fire.

**MT:** *What are Stapp's growth plans?*

**M. Moberg:** In the very near future, our research shows that we should expect environmental issues will significantly increase as a defence sector priority and that will give the Stapp EBC a benefit over other bullet catching systems.

In the meantime and to facilitate more awareness and uptake of the Stapp EBC, we are open to exploring partnership possibilities that increase the knowledge, acceptance and sales of this unique product. Considering the benefits: low installation, usage and ownership costs, easy maintenance, use of local labour (trained by us), and environmental and natural resource friendliness, we see the Stapp EBC as the best way to overcome live fire range challenges.

Stapp EBC is still the only product that fulfils all environmental requirements; we even have the USA EPA documentation on bullet catchers wherein we rank number one!



**MT:** *Thank you very much.*

For more information, inquiries are welcome by contacting:



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