ADI Austeyr F88 A4
Developed to enhance battlespace dominance

ADI is currently developing a modular enhanced version of the ADI Austeyr F88 A2. In Network Centric Warfare the role of the soldier has never been more variable. To maintain battlespace dominance an enhanced individual weapon is mandatory. ADI’s Austeyr F88 A4 will incorporate multiple Picciny rails for the fitting of legacy systems such as the M203 P1 40mm grenade launcher assembly (GLA) as well as both commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) and military off-the-shelf (MOTS) sighting and numerous additional battle enhancement accessories.

The ADI Austeyr F88 A1/A2, manufactured at ADI’s light engineering facility at Lithgow is currently in service with the Australian Defence Force (ADF) as its preferred individual combat weapon. The ADI Austeyr F88 A1/A2 has achieved international success with defence forces and within special forces organisations worldwide as an individual combat weapon. Developed for enhanced combat effectiveness

ADI’s decision to develop an enhanced version of its reliable, accurate and ergonomically successful weapon design is based on the challenges faced by Australian soldiers while deployed on operations, the technology available and the requirement to operate effectively in a Network Centric environment. Whether mechanised, motorised or on foot, today’s soldier has an ever increasingly complex environment in which to gather, send and receive mission data. In this complex environment, information is critical to operational effectiveness and technology plastics and polymers has, in service proven to be one of the most successful features of the weapon's design. While developing the ADI Austeyr F88 A4 prototype, all the features that have made the ADI Austeyr F88 A1/A2 a success have been retained or enhanced.

Adaptability

The ability to adapt will define the future of the infantry assault rifle. ADI believes that over the life of any future assault rifle the technology mounted to the weapon platform will change and be superseded. Electronics are, and will be, the basis of targeting

Proven operational reliability

When first released onto the world market, the original Steyr AUG with its integrated optical sight was a revolution for the infantry soldier. Never before had the infantry had a more accurate weapon. Target acquisition was faster, training cost reduced and the modular design of the major components reduced maintenance liabilities with the ability to interchange entire groups of parts in seconds. Extensive use of high.
technologies in the future. Any sphere where we find electronics we find short product life and high speed product evolution. Ammunition for small arms weapons does not have this high rate of redundancy, due mainly to the maturity of the ammunition and logistics. Small arms ammunition products currently offer highly effective operational solutions and firepower effectiveness. None of the major manufacturers predict a quantum leap in design that would necessitate short weapon life cycles. Attempts to manufacture ammunition without cartridge cases using current technology have been generally unsuccessful. In short, we will have the same technology for small arms weapons ammunition for the foreseeable future.

**Evolution of the individual combat weapon**

With this view, ADI has enhanced the adaptability of the ADI Austeyr F88 A2 with multiple mounting points for both current and future COTS and MOTS weapon accessories. This allows the weapon fleet manager to migrate his fleet as required by the user and as allowed by the constraints of funding. In the current operating environment this adaptability gives the ADI Austeyr F88 A4 significant advantages in a coalition taskforce where interoperability and access to multi national equipment, accessories and support are the norm.

**Australian design and manufacturing capability**

ADI has designed, manufactured and provided the small arms weapons requirements of the Australian Defence Force for over 90 years. This indigenous capability ensures strategic security and confirms ADI’s adaptability to meet the emerging small arms weapon requirements of the ADF.

**The future - ADI Austeyr F88 A4**

With a starting point as successful as the ADI Austeyr F88 A1/A2, the only requirement was to develop increased flexibility and adaptability. Our starting point was to fit the existing inventory of COTS and MOTS equipment to the weapon. The design was then enhanced to accommodate the next generation of information and targeting systems, such as the Land Warrior and Future Integrated Soldier Technology.

ADI’s Austeyr F88 A4 prototype demonstrates this capability with multiple mount points including the relocation of the current 40mm grenade launcher.

The ADI Austeyr F88 A4 will function with 5.56mm F1 ball (SS109) ammunition and 5.56mm F3 blank ammunition when fitted with the appropriate blank firing attachment. The ADI Steyr AUG A3 will be optimised for use by the ADF.

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