

Less Lethality, The FN Herstal Point of View

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Since more than 10 years, FN Herstal has been involved in the less lethality approach. After 5 years technical and commercial investigations, FNH started, in 2000, the development of the FN303 concept. The product was commercialised on the worldwide market in 2003.

A lot of lessons have been learned during these last ten years. Because Less lethality concept is multidisciplinary, FN Herstal has established a Centre of Excellence with the University of Liege and other laboratories such as the Belgian Royal Military Academy. The aim of this Centre is to provide users, customers and policy makers, with a global scientific and operational analysis.

Four main subjects are currently considered:

- Medical aspects: what are the real data that can be used, risk assessment, efficiency analysis and evaluations, establishment of models,...
- Legal aspects: Legal limitations, international regulations vs. the less lethality concept,...
- Social and criminological aspects: what is acceptable, what is applicable?
- Ethics: What is acceptable from an ethical point of view?

The main objective being not to give a complete answer about all the concerns, but to give tools to the user and potential customers so that they can be in a position to answer questions with their own approach.

US approach on less lethality in general, and on FN303 in particular, is very interesting also for the rest of the world because much more integrated in the continuum force approach.

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