

## **DA49, XM1066 155mm IR Illumination Projectile**

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The XM1066 155mm IR Illuminating Projectile (DODIC DA49) is fired from the M198 Towed and M777 Lightweight Towed Howitzers using standard bagged propellant charges (i.e., M119A2, M231, M232, or M232A1). The XM1066 is the same as the existing M485A2 155mm White Light Illuminating Projectile (DODIC D505) with the exception of a different fuze, IR candle, and aluminum ballast. The XM1066 is designed to match the physical properties of the M485A2 projectile in flight and to be handled logistically and fired like a typical 155mm projectile. With an optimal height of burst of 600 meters and the use of night vision devices a 2400 meter diameter of illumination, nearly three times that of the M485A2 visible light projectile.

Introducing artillery IR illumination munitions allows the commander to maximize the capabilities of existing Night Vision Devices on the battlefield and extends IR coverage that currently can only be provided by mortars. Extending the range of IR illumination allows the commander to maximize the entire range capability of lethal munitions from direct and indirect fire systems. This capability allows the commander to shape tactical engagements, mass effects, and support maneuver from disparate locations and lessen over-reliance on direct fires. In addition to the visibility enhancement, IR Illum provides a covert capability because the illumination produced is only in the IR spectrum.

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