

# **MASTER AGREEMENT**

Between

The Royal Military Academy Patrimony, Brussels

and

The Permanent International Commission for the Proof of Small-Arms

**This Master Agreement is established between:**

**on the one hand,**

**The Permanent International Commission for the Proof of Small-Arms (hereinafter "C.I.P.")**

Its Permanent Bureau, under Article 3 of the C.I.P. Regulation, has its headquarters in Belgium. Its Director is appointed by the Royal Decree of the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium of 09 February 2007 published on 09 March 2007, and in fact, the Permanent Bureau is located in the Department of Weapons and Ballistics Systems (ABAL) of the Royal Military Academy, Avenue de la Renaissance 30, 1000 Brussels.

Under Articles 2 and 5 of its Regulation, the C.I.P. shall be represented by its President in office at the time of signature of this document.

**and on the other hand,**

**Royal Military Academy Patrimony (hereinafter "RMA")**

whose registered office is located at Avenue de Renaissance 30, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

Represented by the Chairman of the Board of Directors Royal Military Academy Patrimony in office at the time of signing this document.

### **Preamble**

The C.I.P. establishes uniform rules for the testing of firearms and ammunition in order to ensure the reciprocal recognition of the proof-test marks of the Member States.

In accordance with the 1969 Convention, its Regulations and C.I.P. Decisions, all civilian portable firearms and essential parts must undergo the legal tests in the Manufacturer's C.I.P. Country Proof House, and for imported weapons, in the C.I.P. Country Proof House where the weapons are first imported. The same applies to commercial ammunition. In addition, this Commission must deal on a permanent basis with technical matters in the context of its tasks described in Articles 1 and 3 of the Convention of 1 July 1969.

The RMA is a military university responsible for the academic, military, character and physical training of future officers and for the continuing training of officers during their careers in the Department of Defense of the Kingdom of Belgium. Graduate officers of the School are leaders capable of acting effectively in varied, complex and exceptional circumstances for the benefit of the national or international community. The Department of Weapons & Ballistics Systems (ABAL) participates in academic training. It is a unique department in Belgium: it is the only institution in the country with the appropriate infrastructure where both academic knowledge and scientific activities in the field of Weapons Systems are concentrated. ABAL has become the national scientific reference for small arms.

In this context, the parties agree as follows:

## **SECTION I - GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **Article 1 - Purpose**

- a. The objective of this Master Agreement is to establish a partnership framework between the C.I.P. and the RMA, based on the complementarity of their respective approaches and the potential for joint projects.
  
- b. The first purpose of this Master Agreement is to provide the C.I.P., in particular its various working groups, with scientific and technical support.  
To this end, the RMA may encourage its students to focus their work on topics that are relevant and beneficial to the C.I.P.  
In return the RMA can, as and when necessary, obtain technical support from the C.I.P. in terms of access to certain specific equipment acquired in the past on behalf of the C.I.P.  
Each collaboration is decided by WG 1-1 (by a two-thirds majority of its members) and is the subject of a specific agreement, drafted by WG 1-1 (by letter or e-mail) to set out the precise terms (subject of the study and/or service, supervisors, duration, confidentiality, study cost (consumable), etc.). This agreement is signed jointly by the reporter of WG 1-1 and the Chairman of the Patrimoine Board.

## **SECTION II - TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **Article 2 - Reciprocal commitments**

- a. The parties undertake to keep each other regularly informed of the respective developments in their work and any joint projects.
  
- b. The parties undertake to promote, in good faith and in all transparency, their cooperation within the scope of this Master Agreement.
  
- c. The parties undertake to communicate to their external interlocutors about their partnership, unless otherwise agreed in specific agreements.
  
- d. The Parties shall allow each other to carry out fundamental research for the development and implementation of their joint projects.

### **Article 3 - C.I.P. Commitments**

- a. The C.I.P. proposes research themes to RMA students when this represents a contribution for both institutions and within the limits of the respective resources available.
- b. Where applicable, the costs for consumables necessary for the study shall be borne by the C.I.P. and may not exceed the amount agreed in the written agreement specific to this study. The technical support that the C.I.P. can provide in the context of this research is listed in Appendix A which reflects the current state of the situation. This list is updated on the date of signature of this agreement and its updated version will be available via the BOBP portal ("Back Office Permanent Bureau"). It should be noted that the ERM is insured for any damage caused by its staff.
- c. Within the limits of the availability and collaboration envisaged, the C.I.P. allows students appointed by the RMA to benefit from its expertise, reports, network of experts and to participate in seminars relevant to their research.
- d. Within the limits of staff availability, the C.I.P., through WG 1-1, undertakes to provide its appreciation of the work provided by RMA students at the end of each collaboration (for example in the form of comments on the student's thesis or participation in the jury of doctoral theses).

### **Article 4 - Commitments of the RMA**

- a. The RMA undertakes to encourage the availability of students as part of their academic training (bachelors, masters and doctoral students), within the limits of their interest and availability, to address subjects of interest to the C.I.P. The field of expertise and the level of possible work are described in Annex B. The technical support that the RMA can provide for this research is listed in Annex C.
- b. In accordance with its internal provisions, the RMA undertakes to submit to the C.I.P. a concise file for each student interested in such collaboration with the C.I.P., including in particular a CV, a letter of motivation and a thesis proposal including an estimate of the related costs/charges, excluding staff.
- c. This is an unpaid collaboration that is part of the student's training and can in no way be considered as employment. For information, an accounting of the hours worked (students and supervisors) will be sent to the C.I.P.

### **Article 5 - Confidentiality**

All data and knowledge obtained, used or developed within the framework of the missions of the C.I.P. and the ERM may only be used for the purposes of this Agreement. Any other use is prohibited subject to the prior written consent of the parties and any person who may claim intellectual property rights.

### **SECTION III - FINAL PROVISIONS**

#### **Article 6 - Entry into force, duration and termination of the Master Agreement**

- a. This Master Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its last signature by one of the parties.
- b. The duration of the Master Agreement is five (5) years unless terminated by registered letter with at least six (6) months notice by either party. In the event of termination, ongoing activities are not affected.
- c. In the year in which this first period of five (5) years comes to an end, supported by a report presented by WG 1-1, the Master Agreement is evaluated by the Heads of Delegation who decide whether or not to renew it for a new period of five (5) years. This Decision is taken at a meeting of the Sub-Committee of Heads of Delegation. This evaluation and Decision-making process is renewed in the same way every five (5) years.

#### **Article 7 - Implementation of the Master Agreement**

In the context of the execution of this Master Agreement, the contact persons are respectively for:

- C.I.P.: the reporter of Working Group GT1-1
- RMA: the head of the ABAL department

#### **Article 8 - Amendments to the Master Agreement**

This Master Agreement may be amended by joint agreement between the parties and in writing at any time.

**Article 9 - Applicable law and jurisdiction**

- a. Both parties agree to resolve any disputes arising from this Master Agreement amicably. In the event of persistent disagreement, an arbitral tribunal shall be appointed by both parties.
- b. This Master Agreement is subject to Belgian law. The place of jurisdiction shall be Brussels, if applicable.

Signed in duplicate

**RMA**

**C.I.P.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman of the Board of Directors of  
the Patrimony

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the  
Permanent International Commission

Date :

Date :

**C.I.P. equipment**

<b>Nbr.</b>	<b>Material</b>
1	SABRE 7.62 x 63 (30-06") caliber barrel
3	KISTLER sensor Ref. 6449
1	Tap M10 x 1 KISTLER Ref. 1353
1	KISTLER charging indicator Ref. 5015A1000 & accessories
1	Calibre P Lmin- BE Gardone, 223 Rem
1	Caliber NP Lmax - BE Gardone, 223 Rem
1	Calibre P Lmin- BE Gardone, 308 Win
1	Calibre NP Lmax - BE Gardone, 308 Win
1	Calibre P Lmin- BE Gardone, 9 mm Luger
1	Calibre NP Lmax - BE Gardone, 9 mm Luger
1	Calibre - BE Gardone, Cal 12/70
1	Calibre - BE Gardone, 308 Win
1	Calibre - BE Gardone, 223 Rem
1	Calibre - BE Gardone, 38 Special
1	Calibre - BE Gardone, 9 mm Luger
1	KISTLER Pressure Sensor Ref. 6217 M12x1 NPR 2000 bar
1	Piston cylinder unit for KISTLER for 6909 & accessories
2	Pressure sensor GP6 HPI Ref. GG-0061
2	KISTLER pressure sensor Ref. 6215 M10 x 1 - 18005972
1	CMM ZEISS Micura

The field of expertise of the RMA includes: ballistic metrology, internal ballistics, forensic expertise, external ballistics including fire control and guided missiles, terminal ballistics (material and organic targets) and non-lethal weapons.

Students who may contribute to the work, in the context of this Convention, will be enrolled in one of the following three courses:

1. The Bachelor's thesis (TBA): The TBA is a compulsory part of the 3rd year Bachelor's degree course. The thesis must be a work that demonstrates at an academic level an independent study which can possibly be used as a preparation for the research field of the master thesis. This thesis corresponds to 243 hours of work (about 6 weeks).
2. The Master's thesis (MFE): The MFE is a written work that is defended orally and by which the student officer proves, under the supervision of a tutor, that he has achieved the final objectives of the training provided.

The student officer performs a thoughtful analysis of a complex issue by providing an original solution and commentary, prepares a written report of this analysis that is clear, well-founded and convincing, presents it to a jury and provides adequate answers to critical questions. This thesis corresponds to 486 hours of work (about 12 weeks) for the Social and Military Sciences section and 729 hours (about 18 weeks) for the Polytechnic section.

3. The doctorate: the final objectives of a doctorate at the RMA are in line with the final objectives set within the framework of the Bologna Process, namely that the doctoral student:
  - has demonstrated a systematic understanding of a discipline and mastery of the skills and methodologies of research in that discipline;
  - has demonstrated its ability to design, develop, implement and adapt an in-depth research process with the integrity of a researcher;
  - has contributed to pushing the boundaries of knowledge through original research and a significant amount of work, some of which deserves publication with a national or international peer review committee;
  - is able to critically analyze, evaluate and synthesize new and complex ideas;
  - is able to communicate with colleagues, the scientific community and society at large in the field in which he/she is competent;
  - is capable, in an academic and professional context, of achieving technological, social or cultural progress in a knowledge-based society.
  - This doctorate corresponds to four years of work.



**RMA/ABAL capacities for the benefit of the C.I.P.**

- Shooting tunnel: 103.25 m.
- Shooting capacity: up to 12.7 x 99 mm calibre.
- High speed cameras (more than 100,000 frames per second) with digital correlation capability for stereoscopic images
- Measurement of the projectile speed by infrared barriers, Doppler radar, interferometry and high speed camera.
- Pressure measurement in the weapon, in the chamber and at several places in the ISO 17025 accredited tube.
- Measurement of the behaviour of a projectile following impact on a gelatin block, estimation of energy deposition.
- Laboratory for non-lethal shots (simulating torso, head, skin).