



Alliant is introducing five spherical powders under the "Power Pro" label.



n terms of the quality of our ammunition and the selection of handloading components, these are the best days of our lives. Just consider for a moment that this

year has brought us three new rifle cartridges – the .30 Remington AR, .338 Marlin Express and the .416 Ruger – five new reloading powders and counting – a variety of new bullets – lead-free, rimfire ammunition – and even a steel shot load for the tiny .410.

Recession? Nothing is slowing down or holding back the constant innovation and flow of new products from the ammunition industry.

#### A-Square

After relocating its ammunition manufacturing plant to Chamberlain, South Dakota, A-Square is fully up to production this year with calibers ranging from the 6.5-06 A-Square to the .700 Nitro Express. For big game hunting, especially in Africa, no ammunition approaches the versatility of A-Square's unique Triad loads. For each major caliber, A-Square loads three bullets with the same weight, same profile and same trajectory. One is a monolithic solid; one is a bonded core, controlled expansion soft point; and the third is a thin jacketed soft point designed for rapid, maximum expansion. In short, Triad ammunition provides the hunter with the opportunity to match the bullet to the game at a moment's notice with the assurance that all three loads will shoot to the same point of impact. The Triad is a revolutionary development in the design of big game ammunition. See the Triad and the whole A-Square line at www.asquarecompany.com.

#### Alliant Powder

A member of the ATK group, Alliant is introducing five new spherical hand-

loading powders this year under the "Power Pro" label. They're designed specifically for magnum pistol, varmint rifle, medium rifle, large rifle and magnum rifle. Handloading data is available at www.alliantpowder. com. The big surprise though is a new powder under the "Reloader" series, Reloader 17.

Reloader 17 snuck into the line without a lot of fanfare. It's a very special powder with a unique chemistry. Made in Switzerland by Nitro Chemie, Reloader 17 is formulated for the short magnum cases and has a burn speed similar to IMR-4350.

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Its advantage is that the chemicals that determine the burn rate are saturated into the powder grains rather than being applied to the exterior surface of the grain. The result is a smoother, longer release of energy, producing sensational velocities in the short magnums at normal working pressures. For example, loaded with Reloader 17, the 7mm WSM produces 3,356 fps with a 130-gr. BTSP; the 300 WSM, 3,343 fps with a 150-gr. BTSP. If you shoot a short magnum, you must try Alliant's RE-17. (www.alliantpowder.com.)

#### **Ballistic Products**

Ballistic Products offers the most diverse and innovative selection of shotshell reloading components and manuals available. They've just introduced a new, soft, non-toxic shot composed of iron, tungsten and a polymer binder. Going under the "ITX" label, the pellets are perfectly spherical with a broad cutting band around the circumference. Ballistic Products emphasizes that ITX is much softer than other tungsten blends and is similar in density to Bismuth. See their store at www.ballisticproducts.com.

#### Baschieri & Pellagri (B&P)

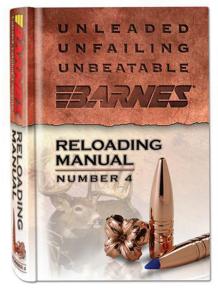
Long known for their premium quality shotshells, B&P builds their ammunition using hulls made under the Gordon System patent that features an active, cushioning base wad that reduces felt recoil. This year B&P has used the Gordon hull to develop 12-gauge steel, target loads featuring 7/8 - 1 oz. of #7 and #8.5 shot driven at lead shot velocities for ideal target performance out to 35 meters. Look for them under the F2 Mach and F2 Legend Professional Steel labels. (www.baschieri-pellagri.com and www.kaltronoutdoors.com)

#### **Barnes Bullets**

Building on the success of their "Tipped Triple-Shock X Bullet" that combines the accuracy and controlled expansion of the conventional Triple-Shock X Bullet with a higher ballistic coefficient offered by the addition of a pointed polymer tip, Barnes is introducing five new Tipped TSX boattail bullets ranging from a .243 (80-gr.) to a 7mm (150-gr.). The conventional Triple-Shock lineup continues to expand as well with a new 6.8 mm (85-gr.) and a .308 (110-gr.).

One of the nightmares of the muzzleloading crowd is a potential ban on lead hunting bullets. Barnes has an answer: the .50-caliber, solid copper, sabot Spit-

Barnes' new manual is highly focused on the modern "Triple Shock" lines.



Fire line. Now offered with a streamlined polymer tip, the Spit-Fire has also been wrapped in a new, easy-loading sabot that's just the answer to tight or fouled bores. For the handgun hunting enthusiast, there is the new "Barnes



Buster." Designed for the .44, .45 and .500 magnums and the .45-70 rifle, the Buster is a non-expanding, deep penetrating bullet intended for wild boar, bear, and even dangerous game like Cape buffalo. Buster bullet weights have yet to be announced. New, too, is an expanded line of lead-free, rifle and handgun bullets for

Barnes "Buster" bullet for handguns and .45-70s is a non-expanding, deep penetrating big game bullet.



the military and law enforcement communities, offering every quality from precision long range accuracy (TAC-LR) to barrier defeating designs (TAC-XP and TAC-X). For updated bullet specifications go to www.barnesbullets.com and www.barnesbullets.com/mle.

#### **Berger Bullets**

With the increasing popularity of the .204 Ruger cartridge for varmint hunting, Berger will offer a long, 55-gr. bullet for the .20-calibers. It should prove ideal for the windy plains of the prairie dog towns. New, too, later in the year, are a number of VLD and conventional bullet designs being developed for the .338 calibers in bullet weights of 200-300 grains. (www.bergerbullets.com)

#### Berry's Manufacturing

Berry's offers an extensive line of copper plated lead handgun bullets at very attractive prices. A new design that is proving to be exceptionally accurate is their hollow base handgun bullet that is offered in 9mm (124-gr.), .40 (155-gr.) and .45 (185-gr.). The .40 and .45 caliber hollow base bullets are premium target bullets that are "double struck," or



sized, after being plated to insure they are 100% symmetrical. See Berry's full line of plated, non-plated and "cowboy" bullets at www.berrysmfg.com.

#### **Black Hills Ammunition**

Consistently providing some of the most accurate ammunition on the market, Black Hills is offering a variety of new loadings based on Barnes bullet designs that include the TAC-XP bullet in 9mm, .40 S&W and .45 ACP; the 55-gr. TSX and 55-gr. highly frangible MPG bullet in the .223, and a 85-gr. TSX bullet in the .243 Win. (www.black-hills.com.)

#### Brenneke USA

Long known for their advanced shotgun slug designs, Brenneke is marketing a unique lead-free, .30-caliber (155-gr.) bullet named the Brenneke "Quik-Shok Copper." Similar in concept to Polywad's Quik-Shok rimfire ammunition and shotgun slugs, the Brenneke bullet features a deep, hollow cavity capped with a polymer tip. Upon impact, the front portion of the new bullet fragments into four copper petals, creating four additional wound channels, while the solid rear section assures deep penetration. The new bullet will be offered in loaded ammunition for the .308 and .30-06 with velocities of 2,953 fps and 2,789 fps respectively. See the complete Brenneke line at www.brennekeusa.com.



Barnes' older Triple Shock design has been upgraded with a polymer tip.





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Black Hills Ammunition is famous for their rigorous quality control and accuracy standards.

#### CCI

Something old and something new. CCI is introducing a new and improved, four wing musket cap for traditional muzzleloaders this year and a 30-gr., lead-free .22 WMR cartridge under CCI's "TNT Green" label. See the details at www.cci-ammunition.com.

#### **Century International Arms**

As the major USA importer and manufacturer of surplus military firearm models, Century is in unique position to ferret out great ammunition deals from across the globe.

Under their "Hotshot" brand of commercial sporting ammunition, Century offers Boxer primed, non-corrosive, soft point loads in a variety of popular calibers ranging from the 7.62 Nagant to the .30-06. Selling for \$12.87/box, Hotshot rifle ammo is the buy of the century. (www.centuryarms.com)

#### **Extreme Shock**

With its successful line of frangible rifle and handgun ammunition based on bullets featuring powdered tungsten cores, Extreme Shock is bringing its proprietary technology to bear on the shotgun shell market. Their new .50-caliber, BD-50J slug weighing 325 grains is a copper-jacketed, compressed tungsten core, 12 ga. sabot round with a muzzle velocity of 1,800 fps. It's designed for rifled shotgun bores and offers maximum expansion on soft tissue. A bit more on the radical side is Shock Shot, compressed cylinders of tungsten powder, equating roughly to #4 and #6 round shot and #00 buckshot. The tactical cylindrical shot delivers extremely wide and open patterns at close range and more ragged and lethal wound channels. Extreme Shock ammunition is wild stuff. See it all at www.extremeshockusa.net.

#### Federal Premium

Introduced several years ago, Federal's proprietary 12-gauge "FLITECON-TROL" wad has a proven track record of delivering exceptionally uniform and dense shot patterns. This year the FLITECONTROL wad technology is being introduced in both the 10-gauge and



CCI has upgraded the quality and performance of the classic musket cap.

MUSKE

20-gauge turkey and waterfowl lines. The new 10- and 20-gauge waterfowl lines now include the loading of Federal's devastating Black Cloud shot.

Even the diminutive .410 is getting some attention due to the popularity of the .410/45LC "Judge" revolver by Taurus. Federal has developed two specialized loadings for the Judge based on 000 buckshot and #4 lead shot. Interesting!

If steel shot is your only option in the field or at the range, there are new steel target and game loads for the 20- and 12-gauge. For the varmint hunter, there's a new V-Shok coyote loading for the 3-inch 12-gauge delivering 1-1/2 oz. of HEAVYWEIGHT BB's in a FLITECON-TROL wad at 1,350 fps. With the increasing popularity of lightweight .38 Special snubbies for personal protection, Federal is bringing back the non-fouling 125-gr. NyClad, hollowpoint load featuring a nylon-coated soft lead HP bullet at an ideal snubby velocity of 830 fps.

Garand and M1A target shooters will be delighted with two new match loads being offered under the American Eagle brand that feature pressure curves to match the semi-automatic gas systems and a harder, staked-in primer to reduce the possibility of slamfires. The .30-06 Garand load sports a 150-gr. FMJ at 2,740 fps and the 7.62x51mm M1A load, a 168gr. HP match bullet at 2,650 fps.

There is a wide range of new centerfire rifle loadings this year based on Federal's Trophy Bonded Tip, Speer, Barnes, and Sierra bullets. In the big game category, Federal is loading a 286gr. Barnes Banded Solid at 2,550 fps in

#### the .370 Sako

and 500-gr. Barnes Triple-Shock X-Bullet at 2,280 in the .458 Lott. The .338 Federal round will be chambered in an AR-10 platform this year, and Federal is making sure it will be economical to shoot by introducing a 200-gr. soft point load in the popular Power-Shok line. Finally, in the rimfire category, Federal is reintroducing its Olympic winning Ultramatch load consisting of a 40-gr. solid at 1,080 fps. See it all at www.federalpremium.com.

#### Fiocchi

One of the most common questions raised by our handgun ballistics tables is the inclusion of a listing for the .450 Short Colt cartridge, also known as the .450 Adams. Believe it or not, the 150year-old cartridge is still loaded – and by a major manufacturer, too.

Yes, the .450 Short Colt is available, and it's loaded under Fiocchi's "Historic Cartridge for Collector's Firearms" category. In that category, under their current handgun cartridge listings, Fiocchi also offers the 7.5 Swiss Ordnance, 7.62 Nagant, 7.63 Mauser, .30 Luger, 8mm Gasser, 8mm Lebel, 8mm Steyr, 9mm Steyr, .38 S&W Short, .380 Long, .44 S&W Russian and. 455 Webley. This year Fiocchi is highly focused on their new non-toxic lines that include rifle, pistol and shotgun ammunition. Fiocchi's answer is a proprietary Tundra Tungsten Composite. Fiocchi claims that their Tundra Tungsten shot is safe for all chokes and older pre-steel barrels and performs and deforms like lead shot.

See their latest loads at www.fiocchi usa.com.

#### Hodgdon

After buying the IMR Powder Company in 2003 and licensing the Winchester branded powders in 2006, Hodgdon has emerged as the largest handloading powder company in the world. Not standing on their laurels for one moment, this year Hodgdon acquired the only black powder manufacturer in the United States. GOEX Powder. Inc., with a history going back to 1802 when it was founded originally as a DuPont company. The only easy way to keep track of Hodgdon and its three powder subsidiaries is through the web at www. hodgdon.com, www.goexpowder. com, www.imrpowder.com,and www.wwpowder.com.

Hodgdon has just released its new 5000+ loads reloading manual that does a good job of covering the latest cartridges like the .300 and .338 Ruger Compact Magnums,. 30 T/C and .327 Federal. Hodgdon also offers an annual muzzleloading manual and basic reloading manual. (www.hodgdon.com)

#### Hornday

Hornady has developed a new non-toxic, monolithic game bullet made from gilding metal rather than a softer copper alloy. Called the "GMX," it sports a hollow nose cavity capped with a polymer tip, a 10-degree boattail base and has a ballistic coefficient that equals its streamlined SST and InterBond counterparts. Performance specifications call for the GMX to expand 1.5 times its original diameter, retain 95 percent of



Federal has designed two specialty loads for the popular Taurus .410 "Judge" revolver.

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its original weight and perform across a wide range of velocities from 2,000 fps to 3,400 fps. Initially, it will be available in .270-, 7mm-, .30-, and .338-calibers.

There are two brand new cartridges this year: the .416 Ruger Compact Magnum and the .338 Marlin Express. Loaded with either Hornady's 400-gr. steel jacketed soft point (DGX) or their steel jacketed solid (DGS) at 2,400 fps, the .416 Ruger should be a fantastic complement to Ruger's short, handy Hawkeye Alaskan rifle. The .338 Marlin Express puts some power and range in Marlin's lever action line with a 200-gr. FTX Flextip bullet at 2,565 fps. With a ballistic coefficient of .430, the .338 FTX bullet matches the ballistics of the 180gr. .30-06 bullet out to 400 yards.

Speaking of big game cartridges, Hornady will be offering classic loads for the .404 Jeffery, .470 Nitro Express and the .500 Nitro Express this year, so stock up.

Finally, there's a new "Critical Defense" line of handgun ammunition for the .380 Auto, 9mm Luger, .38 Special and .38 Special +P. The Critical Defense bullet incorporates a soft polymer insert in its hollow point that insures 100%percent reliable expansion when fired through the toughest of clothing. (www. hornady.com)

Hornady now offers classic ammunition for the .404 Jeffery, .416 Rigby, .470 Nitro Express and .500 Nitro Express.

Accurate.

Dependable

Deadly.

CARTRIDGE

Federal is bringing back the popular 125-gr. .38 Special NyClad round for snubnose revolvers.

#### Lapua

Is the .222 Remington due for a comeback? Maybe so; it's still a popular light game cartridge in Europe. This year Lapua is producing a true match grade .222 case with extremely tight tolerances in wall thickness and neck concentricity. The .222 has always been an inherently accurate cartridge. Lapua's new brass might make it even better.

Promoting their .338 Lapua Magnum for long range target shooting, Lapua is introducing a heavy 300-gr., extra low drag, Scenar hollowpoint match bullet for the .338. Other precision brass case offerings of interest include the .220 Russian, 6.5x47 Lapua, 6.5 Grendel and the 6.5-284. The full Lapua story is at www.lapua.com.

#### Norma

Although it receives little press, Norma's extensive line of match ammunition has been at the forefront of international competition for years. Recently, USA's David Tubb, 11-time NRA High Power Champion and five-time NRA Long Range Champion, developed a new match cartridge in cooperation with Norma. Named the 6XC, the short, compact cartridge features a molycoated 105-gr. 6mm open point match bullet at 3,018 fps. Zeroed at 300 yards, it is 3.5 inches high at 100 and only 9.8 inches low at 400. It's short enough to fit in an AR platform, giving us the

ultimate across-the-board rifle. Norma reports that the accuracy of the 6XC exceeds that of their legendary 6mm Norma Benchrest cartridge, and that's saying a lot. See Norma's extensive lines of hunting and match ammunition at www.norma.cc.

Nosler

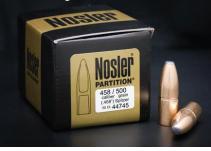
Introducing the largest Partition bullet ever offered, Nosler Hornady's new DGX bullet is a steel jacketed soft point designed for game like the Cape buffalo.

is fielding a .458caliber, 500-gr. Partition that is ideally matched to large and dangerous game in the .458 Win., .458 Lott and .460 Weatherby. Nosler's AccuBond line has developed a well-deserved reputation for outstanding accuracy and structural integrity. The line is being expanded this year with the introduction of a highly desir-



able and long awaited 6.5mm 140-gr. AccuBond. The .30-caliber 168-gr. bullet has been an outstanding match bullet for decades, so Nosler is introducing a 168-gr. Ballistic Tip hunting bullet

Nosler is introducing the largest Partition bullet they've ever made: the 500-gr. .458.



A long awaited addition to the Nosler Partition line is the new 140-gr. 6.5mm.





that combines accuracy with excellent terminal performance on soft skinned game. See their complete catalog and the company store at www.nosler.com.

#### **Pinnacle Ammunition**

Bismuth is back on the market under the auspices of a new company. Pinnacle Ammunition. The shell is still being loaded by Eley but is now being imported and sold under the Bis-Maxx brand. It's still a bit pricey, but it is a safe waterfowling load for all those classic shotguns with pre-steel era barrels. Pinnacle is also introducing a new steel pellet designed by Polywad. Polywad called it a "Squound" because it was neither square nor round. Pinnacle calls it "Aerosteel." The pellet looks ever so much like a miniature Foster slug. It flies nose first and is far less wind sensitive than normal shot. It's an exciting development. Read all about it at www. pinnacleammo.com.

#### Polywad

Polywad's highly creative R&D program is continually spinning off

new product designs for a number of commercial ammunition companies as well as offering a substantial line of shotshells themselves. Recently their focus has been on the development of a totally green shotshell payload. They've got it. Going under their "GreenLite" shotshell label, the new shell is designed for small upland bird shooting out to 35 yards and clay targets out to 40 yards+. The 20- and 28-gauge shells feature a soft steel payload of roughly #7.5 shot enclosed in a heavy Kraft paper shot cup. Between the shot cup and the powder is a column of polymer powder. There is no over-powder wad.

When a GreenLite shell is fired, the only residues left in the field are steel shot, a bit of Kraft paper and a puff of polymer powder – all of which are bioand photo-degradable.

The company's full line of innovative products is at www.polywad.com.

#### **Precision Ammunition**

One of the leaders in the non-toxic industry, Precision Ammunition offers an extensive line of handgun, rifle and



Hornady's Critical Defense handgun ammunition utilizes a polymer tip to ensure the hollow point expands after passing through clothing layers.

shotgun ammunition using projectiles formed from a matrix of copper. Precision calls it their Copper-Matrix NTF Non-Toxic Frangible Ammunition line, and it is torched off using RUAG's GreenFire leadfree primers! It doesn't get much greener! (www.precisionammo.com)

#### Prvi Partisan

This notable Serbian ammunition company not only offers an extensive selection of affordable rifle and handgun ammunition and components but has earned a reputation for loading many of the harder-to-get military cartridges. Among its latest catalogued offerings of loaded ammunition and components are the 6.5x52 Carcano, 7.5x54 French, 7.5x55 Swiss, 7.65x53 Argentine, 7.62x33 Kurz, 8x56 RS Mannlicher and possibly my favorite, the 8x50R Lebel. See their complete catalog at www.prvipartisan.com.



#### Remington

Big Green has a new short proprietary cartridge that revs up the power factor of their lightweight R-15 AR platform rifle. Wouldn't you know it, it's called the .30 Remington AR, and it should prove to Remington's compact .30 AR cartridge is designed to bring deer hunting capability to the AR rifle.

be a great deer load. Remington sums it up by stating "It hits like a .308 and carries like a .223." Initially, there are three loadings for the new AR cartridge: a 125-gr. Core-Lokt, a 125-gr. AccuTip and a 123-gr. FMJ, all at 2,800 fps. Given the popularity of the AR today, I expect we will see a number of other makers chambering the new round.

In the varmint field, Remington is introducing two frangible, iron-tin core, lead-free loads for the .223 (45 grains at 3,550 fps) and the .22-250 (45 grains at 4,000 fps). They should prove to be destructive and ricochet free. Sharing a berth now with Bushmaster, Remington is offering a load for the .450 Bushmaster featuring a 250gr. soft point at 2,200 fps. Their excellent and

high-tech AccuTip Bonded Sabot Slug line has been expanded to include a 260-gr. 20-gauge loadings in the 2-3/4" and 3" shells at 1,850 fps and 1,900 fps respectively. Finally, like most ammunition companies, Remington is fielding 12- and 20-gauge steel game and target loads this year. See this great company at www. remington.com.

#### Sierra

Sierra reports they've had a hard



Winchester's .410 steel load features 3/8 oz. of #6 shot at 1,400 fps.

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time just keeping up with demand this year, much less introducing a number of new products. It's been a common observation in the ammunition and components industry. Nevertheless, Sierra does have a new bullet – the 155gr. .30 caliber HPBT Palma MatchKing – which should keep your .308

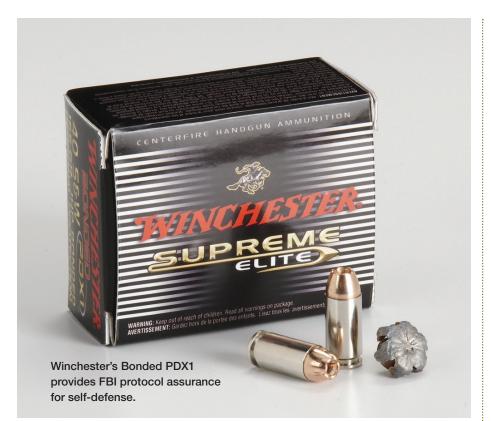
match rifle super-sonic out to 1,000 yards. See the bullet smiths at www. sierrabullets.com.

#### Speer

Responding to the increasing popularity of the 327 Federal, Speer is making its 115-gr. Gold Dot bullet loaded last year in Federal Premium ammunition available as a handloading component. Similarly, their TNT Green bullets, formerly available only in Federal Premium and CCI loaded ammunition, will be available as components for the first time. Much to Speer's credit, the company continues to offer some of the most



Winchester has led the pack with the release of its lead-free, tin bullet in the .22 LR.





Winchester's new .45- and .50-caliber Dual Bond handgun bullets are designed for the largest game.

difficult-to-find bullets to the handloading clan, including a 75-gr. SPFN for the .25-20 Win. and a 130-gr. SPFN for the 7-30 Waters. See their whole component list at www.speer-bullets.com.

#### Winchester Ammunition

At the 2009 Shot Show, I watched a Winchester engineer conduct the complete FBI handgun ammunition protocol with Winchester's new Bonded PDX1 ammunition. The results were impressive. The new bullet, which is a bonded core hollowpoint, consistently expanded to 1.5X its diameter and punched through glass, clothing and other media without deviating from its track. Available in the 38 Special (130 grains), 9mm Luger (124 and 147 grains), 40 S&W (165 and 180 grains) and 45 Auto (230 grains), the PDX1 bullet may be the ultimate self-defense pill.

Winchester is carrying their bonded technology over to rifle ammunition with the introduction of the Super-X Power Max Bonded line featuring a bonded core, protected hollowpoint bullet designed specifically for deer hunting. It's available in .270 Win. (130 grains), .270 WSM (130 grains), .30-30 (150 grains), .30-06 (150 grains), .300 WSM (150 grain), .300 Win. Mag. (150 grains) and .308 Win. (150 grains).

What about handgun hunting ammunition and shotgun slugs? Winchester is introducing a third new projectile design called the Supreme Elite Dual Bond.

The Dual Bond handgun bullet and shotgun slug feature both a bonded core and two bonded jackets, one inside the other. Winchester calls it "the bullet within a bullet," and it's designed for big game up to and including brown bears. Upon impact, a massive hollowpoint initiates expansion up to 2X original bullet diameter, the jackets roll back into a classic talon profile, and due to complete bonding of the jackets and core, the bullet retains nearly 100 percent of its original weight. This year, Dual Bonds will be loaded in the .454 Casull (260 grains), .460 S&W (260 grains), and .500 S&W (375 grains) and as 2-3/4" and 3" shotgun sabot rounds in the 20- and 12-gauges.

Winchester's rimfire line receives quite a facelift with the addition of a 32-gr. Expediter LRHP delivering a muzzle velocity of 1,640 fps and tin base, lead-free bullets in both the .22 LR and .22 Win. Mag. Expanding their lead-free offerings, Winchester is also loading a 55-gr., tin core bullet in the .223 Super-X line and steel shot loads for the .410 and 28 gauge under the Xpert Game and Target line. Our ammunition has never been better! (www.winchester)

TERRORIEL

Remington's Disintegrator Varmint ammunition in the .223 and .22-250 sports leadfree, frangible bullets.