

SNEB

The **SNEB** rocket (French: *Societe Nouvelle des Etablissements Edgar Brandt*) is an unguided air-to-ground 68 mm (2.7 in) rocket projectile (RP) manufactured by the French company *TDA Armements*, designed for launch by combat aircraft and helicopters. Two other rockets were developed in the 37 mm (1.5 in) and 100 mm (3.9 in) caliber. The 37mm caliber was one of the earliest folding fin free flight rockets developed after World War II and was developed mainly for air-to-air engagements and is no longer in service. The 100mm caliber is in service with the French Air Force and a few other air forces. The 68mm caliber is by far the most popular in use today in both the time span of service and numbers produced, even out pacing the Russian 57mm air-to-ground rocket. This armament is commonly referred to in both military and civilian publications as the "SNEB rocket pod". Besides France, several other nations produce the SNEB 68mm rocket under license. In France today SNEB has been reorganized into the firm of Thomas-Brandt.



A Matra Type 155 SNEB rocket launcher pod with two red-tipped 68mm dummy rockets.

The caliber of 68 mm was preferred by the French over other international designs of 57 mm,^[1] 70 mm,^[2] or 80 mm.^[3] The **SNEB** rocket projectile is propelled by a single rocket motor, and, depending on the warhead loadout on the launchers, it can be used against armoured fighting vehicles, bunkers, or soft targets.

Contents

Warheads

Laser guidance development

Rocket launchers/pods

Used by

See also

References

External links

Warheads

The **SNEB** rocket projectiles can be armed with the following warheads:

- High explosive (HE)
- High explosive anti-tank warhead (HEAT)
- Multi-purpose fragmentation
- Flechette anti-personnel/material
- Smoke
- Illuminating
- Training rocket



Matra Type 116M rocket launcher mounted on a Fiat G.91, on display at the Luftwaffenmuseum der Bundeswehr Berlin



Two Matra Type 155 rocket launchers with 36× SNEB 68 mm RPs

Laser guidance development

The *Système de Roquette A Corrections de Trajectoire (SYROCOT)* is a program where a laser-guided seeker is incorporated into the design. It is compatible with the existing SNEB system. It is comparable to the US Advanced Precision Kill Weapon System project.

Rocket launchers/pods

The French armament company of Matra produced the following types of rocket launcher for use with the SNEB 68 mm RPs:

- **Matra Type 116M** rocket launcher — This was lightly constructed and is used as an expendable rocket launcher pod with a frangible nose cone, loaded with 19 SNEB 68mm rockets which were fired in a single rippled 0.5 second salvo with a time interval of 33 milliseconds between each rocket firing. The pod is automatically jettisoned after all the rockets are expended.^[4]
- **Matra Type 155** rocket launcher — Widely produced, this was a reusable device manufactured completely from metal with a fluted nose cone through which the RPs were fired. Loaded with 18 SNEB 68mm rockets, it can be pre-programmed on the ground to fire in shots or in one single ripple salvo as the *Type 116M*.^[4]
- **Matra JL-100** drop tank/rocket pack — This unique arrangement combines a 66 US gallons (250 L) drop tank with a rocket launcher containing 19 SNEB 68 mm rockets in front to form an aerodynamically-shaped pod which can be mounted on over-wing or under-wing hardpoints. One notable aircraft equipped with this was the English Electric Lightning F.53 of Royal Saudi Air Force.^[5]



A Matra Type 116M SNEB rocket launcher pod mounted on ROCAF F-5F

TDA Armements SAS (a subsidiary of Thales Group)^[6] also manufactures pods for the 68mm SNEB rocket. Variants produced are the 12 tube TELSON 12 JF for fighter aircraft, the 12 tube TELSON 12 and the 22 tube TELSON 22 used by the Eurocopter Tiger, the 8 tube TELSON 8 designed for light helicopters and the 2 tube TELSON 2 suitable for UAVs and light Counter-insurgency aircraft.^[7]

Used by

Helicopters


- [Bell UH-1H of the Lebanese Air Force](#) were modified locally to carry Bombs and Matra SNEB 68 mm rocket pods taken from unserviceable Hawker Hunters
- [Aérospatiale Puma](#)
- [Eurocopter AS332](#)
- [Eurocopter AS 532](#)
- [Eurocopter EC 725](#)
- [Eurocopter Tiger](#)


Fixed-wing aircraft

- [Atlas Cheetah](#)
- [Atlas Impala](#)
- [BAE Sea Harrier](#)
- [BAE Harrier II](#)
- [Blackburn Buccaneer](#)
- [Canadair Sabre](#)
- [Dassault-Breguet Super Étendard](#)
- [Dassault/Dornier Alpha Jet](#)
- [Dassault Étendard IV](#)
- [Dassault Mystère](#)
- [Dassault Mystère IV](#)
- [Dassault Mirage III](#)
- [Dassault Mirage 5](#)
- [Dassault Mirage F1](#)
- [Dassault Ouragan](#)
- [Dassault Super Mystère](#)
- [de Havilland Sea Vixen](#)
- [Douglas A-26 Invader](#)
- [English Electric Canberra](#)
- [English Electric Lightning](#)
- [Fiat G.91](#)
- [Fouga CM.170 Magister](#)
- [Hawker Hunter](#)
- [Hawker Siddeley Harrier](#)
- [IAI Kfir](#)
- [Malmö Flygindustri MFI-9](#)
- [McDonnell Douglas F-4J/K/M](#)
- [North American F-86 Sabre](#)
- [SEPECAT Jaguar](#)
- [Sud Aviation Vautour](#)

External images


SNEB 68 mm rockets Helicopter


 22 round 68mm helicopter pod by Brandt


 Fact Sheet 68mm Multi-Dart Rocket


External images

SNEB 68 mm rockets Fixed Wing Aircraft

 Harrier GR.3 firing entire salvo of 4 rocket pods

 Harrier GR.7 in flight with 2 SNEB rocket pods

 1962 Manufacture's ad for various Matra/SNEB rocket pods

 French Navy Super Etendard fitted with Type 155 SNEB rocket pods to outer pylons

See also

- [Hydra 70](#), American equivalent
- [CRV7](#), Canadian equivalent
- [Forges de Zeebrugge](#) Belgian equivalent

References

1. Such as the [S-5 rocket](#)
2. Such as the [Mk 4/Mk 40 Folding-Fin Aerial Rocket](#)

3. Such as the S-8 rocket and the RS-82 rocket
4. "SNEB rocket launcher pods"(<http://www.flightglobal.com/pdfarchive/view/1970/1970%20-%200427.html>) Flight Global Archive. Retrieved 2008-10-23.
5. "Multi-mission Lightning"(<http://www.flightglobal.com/pdfarchive/view/1968/1968%20-%201766.html>) Flight Global Archive. Retrieved 2008-10-23.
6. [https://www.thalesgroup.com/en/global/activities/defence/air-forces/weapon-systems-munitions#rocketsystem\\$](https://www.thalesgroup.com/en/global/activities/defence/air-forces/weapon-systems-munitions#rocketsystem$) 19Dec2018
7. <http://www.tda-armements.com/content/digital-rocket-launchers-telson>| 19Dec2018

External links

- T.D.A. Armements SAS website
 - Jane's info on TDA SNEB 68 mm rockets
 - Jane's info on Matra rocket launchers
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