

# Kigre, Inc., Hilton Head, SC

Sponsored by the U.S. Army Armaments Research, Development and Engineering Center

## Cannon Laser Igniter

### PHASE III IMPACT

- 20 units sold to date, generating \$2 million in sales.
- \$1 million in non-DoD and Government/DoD Research and Development funds.



**K**igre, Inc. has developed a very unique laser igniter system to ensure a more efficient and lethal armament system for Objective Force cannons. As the primary igniter for the cannon, the Breech Mounted Laser ignites the propelling charge to begin the ballistic cycle. Traditional 155mm Howitzers are ignited with a brass cartridge case containing pyrotechnic material which is inserted and removed each time the cannon fires a projectile. The laser replaces the brass cartridge as the primary igniter of the cannon by directly irradiating the basepad of the propelling charge. Characteristics include cannon firing rates up to 15 shots per minute, direct laser path to propellant

charge, rugged solid-state laser design with variable energy and pulse width capability. The laser replaces the brass cartridge as the primary igniter of the cannon. This feature reduces resupply requirements and eliminates environmental waste.

