

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lake Forest, IL January 13, 2026 PepperBall® Introduces the TAC-PATROL™ and VKS Phantom™ Non-Lethal Launchers at SHOT Show 2026

PepperBall®, a global leader in non-lethal solutions for law enforcement agencies, announces the launch of two new launchers debuting at SHOT Show 2026: the PepperBall® TAC-PATROL™ launcher, built for day-to-day patrol deployment, and the VKS Phantom™, a compact launcher designed for rapid target acquisition and confident control in tight, fast-moving environments.

Across patrol and tactical operations, effective de-escalation often depends on creating time, distance, and decision space. TAC-PATROL and VKS Phantom expand non-lethal capability in two distinct ways—one optimized for frontline patrol access and vehicle staging, and one built for higher-tempo conditions where maneuverability and fast presentation matter.

PepperBall® TAC-PATROL™ — Tailored for Patrol

Designed to deliver superior performance in patrol scenarios, TAC-PATROL delivers high performance in a compact, lightweight solution built specifically for the demands of frontline duty.

Key features of the PepperBall TAC-PATROL:

- 18cu 4500psi Carbon Fiber Air System
- Folding Stock with Push-button Release
- Red Dot Optic
- No Recoil
- Metal Tool-less Tank Clamps
- Tool-less Grip Frame Removal
- Silicone-textured Grip Cover
- MIL-STD 1913 and Barrel-mounted Picatinny Rail
- Cross-bolt Safety
- Two-point Sling

“Patrol officers asked for a launcher that is lightweight, easy to operate, and uncomplicated to keep in service over time,” said Carl Sims, Senior Director of Training at PepperBall. “The TAC-PATROL delivers that operational practicality and is built to integrate into how patrol actually works, day in and day out.”

VKS Phantom™ — Engineered for Tactical Conditions

PepperBall also introduces the VKS Phantom™, a compact launcher designed for teams that need rapid target acquisition, confident control, and reliable performance in tight, fast-moving environments. Built for demanding conditions, VKS Phantom combines an intuitive, machine-pistol style form factor with features that support decisive handling under pressure.

Key features of VKS Phantom:

- 13cu 3000psi Aluminum Air System
- 12g Piercer and 88g Adapter with Sleeve
- Machine Pistol Style with No Handguard
- Green Dot Optic
- No Recoil
- 6-inch Compact Barrel Design
- Silicone-textured Grip Cover
- Ambidextrous Safety
- Single Point Sling

“As agencies modernize policy, training, and accountability, tactical teams are being asked to resolve higher-risk incidents with greater restraint, and with tools that help create time, distance, and decision space,” said Brian Haman, Vice President of Product Management at PepperBall. “The VKS Phantom was developed to meet that demand as a compact launcher built for consistent performance and dependable deployment for agencies of all sizes.”

See Both Launchers at SHOT Show 2026

Learn more about TAC-PATROL and VKS Phantom at pepperball.com or contact Katherine Riley at kriley@pepperball.com for media inquiries. PepperBall will be featuring TAC-PATROL, VKS Phantom, and other new products at SHOT Show 2026 in Las Vegas, January 20–23, at booth 72205.

About PepperBall®

PepperBall is dedicated to creating the highest quality non-lethal law enforcement solutions that de-escalate confrontations, safely change behavior and ultimately save lives. For over two decades, PepperBall has been the trusted non-lethal partner for law enforcement, correctional and military professionals worldwide, and over 20 million PepperBall projectiles have been safely deployed. Based in the US heartland, PepperBall stands behind each product with an industry-leading commitment to training and service. To learn more about PepperBall, visit pepperball.com.