



Taser ECD Devices

Frequently Asked Questions

How does a Taser device work?

TASER devices utilize compressed nitrogen to project two small probes up to various ranges of 15, 21, 25 or 35 feet (only 15 foot cartridges are sold to citizens) at a speed of over 160 feet per second. These probes are connected to the TASER device by insulated wire. An electrical signal is transmitted through the wires to where the probes make contact with the body or clothing, resulting in an immediate loss of the person's neuromuscular control and the ability to perform coordinated action for the duration of the impulse.

What is the advantage of using a Taser device?

"The advantage is that TASER technology can truly immobilize a suspect who can overcome pain, might be on dangerous drugs like cocaine or methamphetamine or even emotionally disturbed, whereas other use of force tools rely upon pain compliance. The TASER system doesn't use pain compliance but immediately stops any coordinated action by the subject only while the TASER system's current is flowing. Recovery is instantaneous so the TASER system only provides a window of opportunity to temporarily stop someone's dangerous actions."

Why use a Taser device?

TASER devices save lives and are generically known as electronic control devices. TASER brand devices are among the safer use-of-force options available today. TASER systems use proprietary technology to immediately incapacitate dangerous, combative or high-risk individuals who pose a risk to law enforcement officers, innocent citizens or themselves. TASER devices have been proven statistically to dramatically reduce injury rates to suspects and officers and increase officer safety and community security compared to any other use of force option.

Are Taser devices safe?

TASER technology is not risk free, but Independent medical and scientific experts have determined that when used properly, TASER technology is among the most effective use-of-force interventions available to law enforcement. No other law enforcement tool has undergone as extensive international scientific testing and scrutiny as TASER technology.

What about accountability?

TASER International has taken it upon itself to implement numerous measures to ensure that its electronic control devices are among the safest and most accountable, use-of-force alternatives in the world. These accountability measures include the development of an on-board computer called the dataport system that records a set of data each time the trigger is pulled. No other use of force option provides this level of accountability through documentation and deployment data.

For citizen accountability, each TASER cartridge is serialized and registered to its user and includes a tracking program that disperses dozens of confetti-sized film at the scene under our Anti-Felon Identification (AFID) program.

TASER C2: The TASER C2 is the first device to incorporate a revolutionary new public safety background check technology called CheckLok™. CheckLok, TASER C2 units are shipped in an inactivated state. They cannot be used until the end user successfully completes a background check from the privacy of their own home using a secure web site or a toll-free 800 number. After completing the background check, the user is issued an activation code unique to their serial number. Only after entering the activation code can the TASER C2 be operated.)

X26E VS. X26C

TASER X26C: The main difference in the X26C vs. X26 law enforcement model is that the X26C model uses a 10-second cycle vs. a 5-second cycle and the range. Citizens have 15-foot range versus 25-foot range for law enforcement. Moreover, the X26C trigger can be triggered several times to create a 30-second cycle. The user can then deploy the X26C, squeeze the trigger 3 times quickly to create a 30-second cycle (3 x 10 second cycle = 30 seconds), place the X26C on the ground and depart a dangerous scene while the X26C safely disables the intruder. The law enforcement version cannot be squeezed multiple times to create back to back cycles. The law enforcement X26 uses a 5-second cycle. It can be overridden by the user but the instant the finger is off the trigger, the cycle stops. Multiple trigger pulls will not change the 5-second cycle either.

Neuromuscular Incapacitation

The human nervous system communicates with simple electrical impulses. The command center (brain and spinal cord) processes information and makes decisions. The peripheral nervous system includes the sensory and motor nerves. The sensory nerves carry information from the body to the brain (temperature, touch, etc.). The motor nerves carry commands from the brain to the muscles to control movement.

TASER technology uses similar electrical impulses to cause stimulation of the sensory and motor nerves. Neuromuscular Incapacitation (NMI) occurs when a device is able to cause involuntary stimulation of both the sensory nerves and the motor nerves. It is not dependent on pain and is effective on subjects with a high level of pain tolerance.

Previous generations of stun guns could primarily affect the sensory nerves only, resulting in pain compliance. A subject with a very high tolerance to pain (e.g., a drug abuser, or a trained, focused fighter) might be able to fight through the pain of a traditional stun gun.

COMMON EFFECTS OF NMI

The use of TASER technology causes incapacitation and strong muscle contractions making secondary injuries a possibility. These potential injuries include but are not limited to: cuts, bruises, impact injuries, and abrasions caused by falling, and strain-related injuries from strong muscle contractions such as muscle or tendon tears, or stress fractures. These injuries are secondary in nature and not directly attributable to the electric output of the TASER device, but are possible consequences of the strong muscle contractions the TASER device induces to produce incapacitation. Some of the effects may include:

- Subject can fall immediately to the ground and be unable to catch him/herself.
- Subjects located in the water may drown if their ability to move is restricted.
- Subject may yell or scream.
- Involuntary strong muscle contractions.
- Subject may freeze in place with legs locked.
- Subject may feel dazed for several seconds/minutes.
- Potential vertigo.
- Temporary tingling sensation.
- May experience critical stress amnesia (may not remember any pain).

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