







FEEL THE HEAT AS FLAMETHROWER TECH BLAZES AHEAD

BY LINAS CERNAUSKAS



ust like firearms, the technology has improved upon the commercially available flamethrowers. Before we get into it, we're talking about flamethrowers, and personally, I think they are awesome. Everyone who has tried one in my presence just grins from ear to ear. But if you must have a purpose for one, you can use it to light bonfires, remove snow and ice, get rid of weeds, pest control, for land management, create special effects and so much more. You get the idea.

PULSEFIRE LRT

Exothermic Technologies offers two flamethrowers that are unique to say the least. The first one to come out from them is the Pulsefire LRT. Unlike other flamethrowers, the LRT does not need a pilot torch, which can be a pain, but instead uses a continuous electric arc ignition. You no longer need to worry about the fuel for the pilot torch, getting it lit and maintaining it.

The LRT has a fuel pump, which draws the gasoline from the 0.35-gallon reservoir and sends it through the nozzle where it passes





through the electric arc and ignites the gasoline. The typical reach of the flame is about 25 feet. While the standard reservoir capacity will only last you about 27 seconds, you can up the ante with the optional 3.3-gallon Pulsefire Backpack Kit that will give you about four minutes of pure joy.

What is also unique about the LRT is that it has a shut-off valve right behind the nozzle. It helps prevent any drips of gasoline after you're done. This is helpful, especially if you want to display it in your office. And it has low power protection, so when the voltage is low, the system will disable the trigger to let you know it's time to charge or change the battery. That's right, on this flamethrower you can easily switch out the battery for a fresh one. Just be aware that the battery does not like extreme

temperatures. So, if you plan on storing the flamethrower in a shed or garage, make sure that you remove the battery.

The price tag of having this much fun? Well, the MSRP is \$630, but I have seen them out in the wild for under \$600. For that amount, you get the LRT, a user manual, battery and a charger. The Pulsefire Backpack Kit retails for about \$300. If you live in the nanny state of California, they do have a California complaint LRT that features a different type of nozzle that only allows the fire stream length to be under 10 feet. That's still better than Elon's Bore flamethrower.

PULSEFIRE UBF

The UBF (Underbarrel Flamethrower) can be used as a standalone flamethrower or, as the





name suggests, mounted on any firearm via a Picatinny rail. The UBF shares many features with the LRT, but it has a smaller 0.25-gallon reservoir (about 20 seconds of burning fun). Because the opening to the reservoir is on the side, the UBF features a kickstand for easy filling. It also comes with a Picatinny clamp and handle that either attaches directly to the UBF or attaches the handle (it uses a Picatinny profile) to the clamp.

It uses the same battery and technology as the LRT. Where the LRT ignition trigger is at the rear, the UBF's is at the front. Speaking of the front, the UBF also features a blast shield to protect the components of the UBF. I was told that the UBF was tested on a SCAR 17 .308 with several hundred rounds downrange without any sign of wear or tear on the shield or elsewhere.

I was eager to do some shooting and roasting, so I mounted my test UBF to a Daniel Defense M4A1 RIII. The UBF weighs 6 pounds empty, and I knew the DD RIII handguard could take the extra weight. But good lord, the UBF is clunky when mounted to an AR. Actually, the whole weapon becomes clunky and a bit awkward. It sticks out quite a bit on the sides because it is 5 inches at its widest. Is it cool and fun? Abso-freakinglutely! Would I take it to war with me? No. It's definitely a cool range toy suited for showing off. But knowing the team at Exothermic Technologies, I am sure they probably have some cool refinement ideas in the works.

So, if you want to shoot and burn, the UBF has an MSRP of \$630 like the LRT. And like the LRT, you can hook up the 3.3-gallon Backpack to the UBF. Both the LRT and UBF are a hoot to use, and both will definitely liven up any party. Check out the family of the Pulsefire flamethrowers at exothermic.tech.

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