



June 5, 2020

RE: TIPPMANN SPORTS - REFERENCE TO COMPANY PRODUCTS IN UPCOMING ONLINE PUBLICATION AND RELATED QUESTIONS

Dear Mr. Dummett:

Thank you for reaching out to Tippmann Sports ("Tippmann") in regards to your questions and concerns about our less lethal technologies product range.

Firstly, Tippmann strongly supports the promotion of human rights practices around the world through governmental agencies (such as the United Nations and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) as well as local and regional human rights movements.

Tippmann is a manufacturer of air and CO2 powered projectile launchers and supplies these launchers to sporting industry (such as paintball and airsoft), to the personal defense industry, as well as to law enforcement contractors that supply to law enforcement agencies around the world.

The Tippmann products supplied to law enforcement contractors are designed to launch less lethal projectiles. While Tippmann does manufacture and distribute less lethal launchers, it does not manufacture or distribute less lethal projectiles. The product that you reference in your letter of May 27, 2020, is a Tippmann manufactured launcher. We unfortunately cannot comment on the use of our product in the video that you reference since neither Tippmann nor its employees were involved in this incident.

Tippmann views its less lethal technologies as a manner of promoting and preserving human lives which would otherwise be at risk or lost through the use of traditional lethal technologies. Each time that a law enforcement agency chooses to substitute traditional technologies for less lethal technologies, we strongly believe that we have saved lives. This is also the reason that Tippmann works closely with the law enforcement contractors that it supplies to provide training and manuals for its less lethal products.

In response to your questions, please find some additional information on Tippmann and its practices below:

1. Does Tippmann Sports have human rights due diligence policies and procedures for addressing the potential human rights impacts involved in the export of its products and services?

Tippmann does not directly supply its less lethal technologies products to law enforcement organisations but supplies its less lethal technologies to law enforcement contractors, who in turn engage with law enforcement agencies around the world. In supplying these law enforcement contractors, we abide by the rigorous debarment policies established by the United States of America government and rely on the government to make determinations on the fitness of states to be able to receive such less lethal products.

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2. *To which countries has Tippmann Sports exported tear gas and/or related launchers over the past five years? Could you please provide types and quantities?*

Tippmann is a manufacturer of launchers and does not manufacture or supply tear gas. In the last two years Tippmann has supplied 950 less lethal technologies launchers to law enforcement contractors for the purpose of resale to law enforcement agencies that are not located in debarred States by the United States government.

3. *Does Tippmann Sports monitor the use and human rights impacts of its products and services in the countries to which it exports?*

Tippmann provides detailed training and manuals to all of its law enforcement contractor clients for the purpose of ensuring that our less lethal products are used in a manner that promotes and preserves human lives.

4. *Does Tippmann Sports collect data on any reported injuries or deaths caused by the misuse of its equipment?*

Tippmann cannot monitor the use of its product in the field by law enforcement officials and as such does not collect any data on the injuries or deaths caused by the misuse of its equipment. Tippmann is only aware of such incidents when law enforcement officials or victims of injury have voluntarily informed Tippmann of such incidents.

5. *How does Tippmann Sports address situations in which its products and services have been used for human rights violations?*

Tippmann relies on the government of the United States to determine if and when states and their law enforcement agencies have engaged in human rights violations and place them on the existing debarment lists to prevent them receiving such less lethal products. Tippmann cannot make such determinations by itself because we lack the necessary resources to gather all of the necessary information to be able to fully and completely make such determinations.

6. *Has Tippmann Sports ever withdrawn from providing products or services on the grounds of adverse human rights impacts as a result of its own analysis, independent of external government requirements? Could you provide examples of such withdrawal of products or services?*

Tippmann reviews proposed sales to its customers against existing United States government debarment lists and refuses to ship less lethal products to any debarred parties.

As you point out in your letter, "Less lethal technologies can play an important role in law enforcement, providing law enforcement officials with options for the use of graduated force. In the policing of public assemblies, for example, less lethal equipment can protect the lives of both law enforcement officials and protesters, as well as prevent unnecessary injury if used in line with international law and standards."

We believe that as a "global movement (...) who campaign for the protection and promotion of human rights worldwide" Amnesty International must support the use of less lethal technologies, such as the Tippmann products, by law enforcement officials to protect and preserve human lives.

We would also strongly encourage your organization to revisit its position to make mandatory the use of less lethal technologies by enforcement agencies and would ask for your endorsement of Tippmann's less lethal product offering as the preferred tool for law enforcement agencies. It is only through joint efforts that we can continue our work to move law enforcement agencies around the world away from traditional lethal technologies and promote human life.

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We look forward to receiving your support in this joint fight to promote, protect and preserve human life and human rights across the world through the use of Tippmann's less lethal technologies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Ceranski', with a stylized flourish at the end.

William Ceranski
President