Adobe at the Range

Most people have heard of tech giant Adobe. If you're reading this magazine (and many other publications), you're seeing the results of its software, from InDesign to Photoshop. What you might not know is several Adobe employees meet at an indoor range near its San Jose, CA, headquarters each month to practice their shooting skills and have a safe, good time.

Started by Ken Lunde in 2000, the Adobe Shooters League has doubled in size from about a dozen active participants to nearly 30 today. From the start, it has received funding from the company as part of its Entertainment, Sports, Celebration, Activities, Party Planning and Events (ESCAPE) program, which also funds basketball, volleyball, softball and other sports for employees.

The funds are used to purchase targets, cover range fees and provide ammunition to participants. "As long as our supply is sufficient, each employee who attends gets one or two boxes of centerfire pistol ammunition," Lunde said. "Ammunition was much cheaper and more readily available when we first started."

About five years ago, it simply became more expensive. Then, from last December, it also became harder to find. That is our current challenge," Lunde noted the vast majority of shooters choose to use handguns because the indoor range is more conducive to pistol practice.

The ESCAPE program allows any headquarters employee to participate, and the league's events are published in a weekly corporate newsletter so interested individuals know how, when and where to join. Lunde puts a heavy emphasis on safety, particularly with the significant number of new shooters entering the league. "Safety comes first," he said. "In fact, we've never had any injuries of any kind. My first time playing in the Adobe volleyball league, however, I went to the ER."

The league's purpose is not for competition. Rather, it provides a fun time on a weekend evening for employees to relax and enjoy shooting, as well as an opportunity to improve their skills. According to Lunde, regular attendees have markedly improved their abilities. So, the next time you touch up your photos in Photoshop, read a PDF file or pick up a magazine, remember that some of the folks involved in producing the software you use so often share your interest in firearms.

Quick Shots

Remington finalized a contract with USSOCOM to supply 5,150 Modular Sniper Rifles (MSRs) for the command's Precision Sniper Rifle (PSR) system needs. The contract has a 10-year run and is valued at $79.7 million for the rifles with Advanced Armament Corp. Titan QD suppressors and 4,696,800 rounds of ammo.

Safariland acquired Mustang Survival, a manufacturer of lifesaving equipment for recreational, military, law enforcement and industrial users in the marine and aviation fields.

HiViz announced plans to relocate operations out of Colorado due to the recent passage of anti-gun legislation in the state. At press time, talks were under way with officials of a neighboring state regarding the move.

Leupold and Aimpoint were awarded five-year contracts by the U.S. Navy Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division for Enhanced Combat Optical Sight-Optimized (ECOS-O) systems. Leupold's $42.8 million contract is for its Mark 6 3-18x44 mm riflescopes and Mark 6 Integrated Mounting Systems, while Aimpoint's $8.7 million contract is for the company's Micro T-1 red-dot sights and mounting brackets.

Crane armors will integrate the systems and deliver the ECOS-O to warfighters in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps.