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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NAS³™ .50 BMG Ammunition Clears Belt-Fed Test

Final major validation complete as SST moves its .50 BMG NAS³ case toward sample-lot production.



Eubank, Ky. (November 2026) – Shell Shock Technologies, LLC (SST), a leading innovator in the ammunition industry, today announced that its .50 BMG (12.7x99mm) NAS³™ ammunition has successfully completed live-fire testing in a belt-fed machine gun. The cases and ammunition fed, fired, extracted, and cycled as designed, marking the final major validation SST sought before moving the .50 BMG NAS³ case into production. Following minor tooling refinements, the company expects to begin producing its first sample lots in November 2026.

The test was conducted by Detroit Ammo on Oct. 1, 2026, using an M2Hb belted machine gun, with 10 consecutive rounds fired. Belt-fed operation places different demands on a cartridge case than a test barrel or bolt-action rifle. In automatic fire, the case must withstand high-speed feeding from a linked belt, chambering, firing, and rapid extraction, cycle after cycle. The NAS³ case met each of those demands.

The belt-fed results build on SST's earlier test-barrel and bolt-action evaluations, including independent live-fire testing conducted by Vairog US, LLC and announced in July 2026. That testing recorded zero primer or case failures across nine charge weights. The SST .50 BMG NAS³ case offers approximately 13.5 percent greater internal capacity than standard brass, enabling a higher powder charge for improved velocity and downrange energy. In testing at standard SAAMI pressures, the NAS³ case produced approximately 280 feet per second more velocity than comparable brass at approximately 54,000 PSI.



At approximately 33.7 grams, the .50 BMG NAS³ case is roughly 40 percent lighter than a comparable brass case, saving approximately 46 pounds per 1,000 rounds. For crew-served, belt-fed weapons, where crews carry, stage, and feed ammunition in volume, that reduction delivers direct logistics and mobility value. The case's nickel-stainless steel alloy construction also supports clean extraction, faster heat dissipation than brass, and corrosion resistance under sustained fire and adverse conditions.

“This was the test I was waiting for. We had already seen very strong results through test barrels and bolt-action rifles, but numbers from a test barrel only tell part of the story. The real question was simple: How does it run in a belt-fed machine gun? Now we know. It fed, fired, extracted, and cycled exactly the way we wanted it to. After all the engineering, tooling, and testing that went into reaching this point, watching that belt run was a significant milestone for our entire team,” said Peter Foss, Managing Partner and CEO of Shell Shock Technologies.

With belt-fed validation complete, SST is finalizing tooling adjustments ahead of its first sample lots and will continue gathering performance data as it moves into production. The .50 BMG NAS^3 case is engineered for professional end-users who require every performance advantage the platform can deliver, and for precision shooters pushing the limits of extreme long-range capability.

Video of the belt-fed test is available on SST’s Instagram.

Keep up with Shell Tech's advanced ammunition on the website and social media platforms: Facebook, Instagram, X (formerly Twitter), and YouTube.

About Shell Shock Technologies:

Shell Shock Technologies, LLC (SST), headquartered in Eubank, Kentucky, is a leading innovator in advanced ammunition case design and manufacturing. The company’s patented NAS^{3}™ technology platform combines stainless steel and aerospace-grade aluminum to create lightweight, durable, and high-performance ammunition cases designed for demanding military and commercial applications.

For more information, please visit www.shellshocktechnologies.com or follow @shellshocktech on Instagram.