



# Member Tested and Recommended Program



## About the Member Tested and Recommended Program

This program is designed to provide law enforcement product manufacturers with a process by which their products can be field tested by the law enforcement community. The program will assist the law enforcement community by publishing the tester's results on a given product. Member Tested Program field test results do not constitute an endorsement of any product on the part of the NTOA as an organization or entity. The Member Tested Program reports information obtained from individuals engaged in law enforcement activities. The NTOA as an organization does not independently verify the information submitted by field testers nor does the NTOA verify the representations and warranties of product manufacturers.

### How the Program works

A manufacturer will provide the NTOA with 2-4 samples of a product. The NTOA selects an active tactical team member to test the product (Field tester). Field testers will be required to test the product and complete a product review form within 45 days of receiving the product. Products will be tested and scored on a scale of 0 to 5 in 13 possible categories.

### Rating Scale

**5..... EXCELLENT** Defined as a product that performs at a level above advertised specifications and demonstrates its usefulness and quality of workmanship every time it is used and can be used for other purposes.

**4..... VERY GOOD** Defined as a product that exceeds advertised specifications on a regular basis and outperforms others in usefulness and quality of workmanship.

**3..... AVERAGE** Defined as a product that meets minimum advertised specifications, has practical use, but does not go above or beyond the scope of quality or usefulness that is expected.

**2..... FAIR** Defined as a product that has occasional applications and in some situations meets advertised specifications, but overall is not effective.

**0 - 1 .... POOR** Defined as a product that does not meet minimum advertised specifications needed to make the product useful, product does meet any of its practical purposes.

Using the scores given, an average will be taken of each category by the 2 to 4 testers' ratings.

### Rating Categories

- |                |                        |
|----------------|------------------------|
| 1. Design      | 7. Storage             |
| 2. Performance | 8. Versatility         |
| 3. Ease of Use | 9. Convenience         |
| 4. Size        | 10. Application for LE |
| 5. Quality     | 11. Comfort            |
| 6. Durability  | 12. Cleaning/Maint.    |
|                | 13. Accuracy           |

A product must have the ability to be rated in at least six categories. In addition to the numerical rating, a short written description identifying the advantages and disadvantages of the product must be submitted with the rating sheet.

Products will be tested by at least two field testers to ensure a fair test. If a product has a very specific use, please indicate the use so we can properly place the product with a field tester.

Products that earn a rating of 3.0 or higher will receive NTOA Field Tester Recommended Status and be allowed to attach the NTOA Member Tested & Recommended Logo to product materials.

Products that score lower than 3.0 will not receive approval. Test results will be sent to the manufacturer in hopes that improvements can be made to the product. Products can be resubmitted to the program.

There is no guaranty of a particular rating upon submission – NTOA does not control the comments of the field testers.

The NTOA, as an organization, makes no representation as to the product submitted to the program or its use, effectiveness or safety. The only representations and warranties applicable to any particular product are those of the manufacturer.

### Fee Structure

- \$200 processing fee per product valued under \$1000.
- 15% processing fee per product valued greater than \$1000.

### More reasons to submit products for tested under this program:

**Premier Sponsor** - may submit an unlimited number of products for testing with no fee.

**Platinum Sponsor** - may submit up to six products for testing with no fee.

**Gold Sponsor** - may submit up to four products for testing with no fee.

**Silver Sponsor** - may submit up to two products for testing with no fee.

\*All manufacturers must send a photo of the item to be included in the Product Review Online Database. Please supply a high-res photo of 300 dpi or better via e-mail to [mtrprogram@ntoa.org](mailto:mtrprogram@ntoa.org) or mail photo on CD to: NTOA, PO Box 797, Doylestown, PA 18901.

### Products will not be returned to the company.

#### Revocation of the Member Tested designation

The Member Tested designation may be withdrawn or terminated for any reason in the event that NTOA management and board of directors believes, in its ultimate discretion, that the continuation of the program or the Member Tested designation as to a particular product is not in the best interest of the NTOA.