

Cartridge *corner*



I know a trend when I see one. It struck me as I gazed at the test data for the cartridges on test here that I couldn't remember the last time we had received a new load for evaluation which claimed to go 'further, faster and hit harder'. Just the opposite in fact: everyone seems to be selling moderate speed, smooth shooting and low recoil. And hooray for that says I, because I have long been convinced that excessive speed is detrimental to patterns and excessive recoil is damaging to the shooter (and his scores).

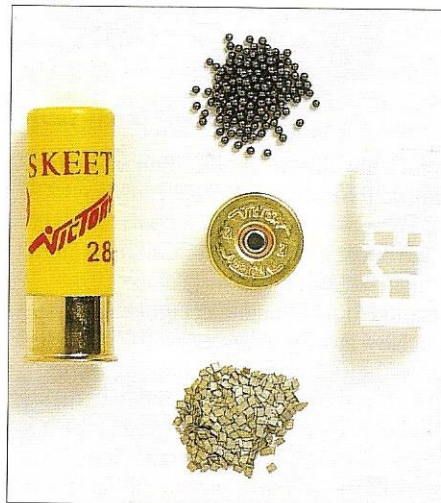
VICTORY'S OLD SMOOTHIE

Victory, the Cyprus based manufacturer, it has to be said, have been as guilty as any in the past. Their Sonic load was one of those which majored heavily on the speed angle and for a while everyone just had to have them. Long term comfort is now becoming more important to the discerning shooter and Adept UK, the new Victory distributor, have decided the time is right to introduce the 480, the load you see here.

Or perhaps that should be reintroduced. Those of you with long memories will remember these cartridges from days gone by, specifically the 32 gram (1 1/8 oz) which predates the change to 1 ounce loads. The 480 range has never really gone away and is now we hear selling very well in America (where it is sold as a 2 3/4 dram equivalent). A number of the American visitors at Goodwood were using 480s.

Because of the American interest, the 32 gram is as important as the 1 ounce (28 gram) load and Adept are offering both for the UK market; the heavier shell in just 7 1/2 and 8 shot sizes for FITASC shooters. The 28 gram comes in 7 1/2, 8 and 9 to cover all normal requirements.

Although loaded for comfort, Victory have not skimped on the presentation. The cases (colour coded for ease of identification) have 15 mm brass heads and eight star crimps. Inside the highly regarded PSB powders are matched to



Victory's own design wad and 3% antimony shot, which scored well for even sizing and finish under our high magnification test. The 28 gram uses PSB5 powder, while the heavier load has PSB3.

A look at the test data showed the 28 gram load to be marginally quicker at the muzzle as expected, but the more important observed velocity figure is identical for both the 28 and 32 gram at 319 metres per second

(1046 feet per second). Equally significant was the pressure information; just 425 bars for the lighter load, 500 for the big brother. This promised smooth shooting performance from both.

The promise was delivered out on the range. The 480s really are a very comfortable cartridge to use. Even the heavier 32 grams were smooth and they were difficult to tell apart, even when mixing them up together. The moderate speeds are clearly helping the pattern quality too, as the breaks were very good and very consistent.

Adept tell me that the 28 gram will retail at around £95 per thousand and the 32 gram around £108 per thousand. At those prices this is a very competitive offering indeed and likely to do extremely well. For details of your nearest stockist contact Adept UK Ltd on 01457-877170.

FACT FILE

	28 GRAM	32 GRAM
SHOT SIZES	7 1/2, 8, 9	7 1/2, 8
VELOCITY (MUZZLE)	399 MPS (1308 FPS)	386 MPS (1266 FPS)
VELOCITY (OBSERVED)	319 MPS (1046 FPS)	319 MPS (1046 FPS)
PRESSURE	425 BARS	500 BARS
PRICE	£95 PER 1000	£108 PER 1000
DISTRIBUTOR:	ADEPT UK LTD, TAMEWATER MILL, DELPH NEW ROAD, DOBCROSS, SADDLEWORTH OL3 5BE TEL: 01457-877170, FAX 01457-877030	