

17th International Symposium on  
Military Aspects of Blast and Shock

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## **Effectiveness of Barricades on Reducing Downstream Blast Loads**

### **1. Abstract**

Barricades are often seen as an effective means of protecting structures or equipment from blast loads. With the increased sensitivity to terrorist threats, barricades are being installed in rapid fashion around potential targets. Some information regarding barricade effectiveness can be found in literature, but may be limited in application. This paper describes numerical simulation of blast wave interaction with barricades and compares the results with simplified methods for load prediction. Pressure data from recent test programs for a charge weight of 800 lbs. are also compared with numerical models and empirical charts. Conclusions regarding overall effectiveness are provided along with measures necessary to improve blast load reduction.