

Poelang adapts to markets

Taiwanese crossbow manufacturer Poelang works hard to produce crossbows that meet the restrictions of differing markets, especially in Europe, and with new 'bows arriving very soon, *Gun Trade World* caught up with the company to find out a little more.

The refinement of the modern compound crossbow has been driven by the specific needs of the North American outdoor sporting industry and, to that purpose, Poelang builds outrageously fast crossbows for the hunt.

For more than 20 years, Poelang Enterprises of Taiwan has been the largest OEM producer of crossbows in the world. Its research into arrow velocity is critical because feral hogs in Texas are preternaturally fast and their reaction is near instantaneous.

To humanely harvest deer in Michigan, it designs crossbows that explosively release the kinetic energy that is necessary to propel the bolt through a dense mass of bone and muscle.

CROSSBOWS IN EUROPE

The venerable crossbow, that once was held in such high regard by soldiers and hunters, now enjoys a rather complex legal status across the nations of Europe. Hunting with a crossbow is prohibited in most countries and in some jurisdictions they are classified as

weapons. To further complicate issues, most archery ranges are not equipped to allow the use of high-velocity crossbows. While there will always be a demand for Poelang's plus 390fps crossbows in European archery, there is clearly a need for a new range of products that are tailored to the specific demands of crossbow enthusiasts across the EU and the UK.

It was from this realisation that the R&D division of Poelang, Ek Archery Research, began the development of sub-120lb crossbows. Just as the carbine

evolved from the full-sized battle rifle, a more moderately powered "carbine crossbow" would have all the features of a high-velocity one but would be lighter, more compact, easier to cock and more suitable for smaller target ranges. A carbine crossbow could have the easy handling and target acquisition characteristics of a pistol crossbow, but produce a respectable kinetic punch. **GTW**

Poelang

W: www.poelang.com

THE NEW COBRA SYSTEM R9



Ek Archery Research's first offering in a new line of small-frame crossbows is the lightweight R9.

Like the original Cobra, the R9 is hand cocked using an integral lever, but the new system is designed to allow more force to be applied to the lever, facilitating a rapid cycling of the crossbow and allowing even women and children to operate it. The R9 also features a patented decocking mechanism that permits the user to easily disarm the crossbow if one decides not to take the shot. To supplement its robust safety mechanism, this crossbow also includes a patented anti-dry-fire system.

Because the R9's 90lb limb set can be rapidly removed and reinstalled without tools, the crossbow can be compactly stored in a survivalist's "bug-out bag" with a large supply of bolts, ready at a moment's

notice. This ease of disassembly also complies with some European nations' requirements that crossbows must be rendered "non-functional" during transportation.

The ergonomically designed frame and pistol grip includes an integrated finger guard to encourage the user to have safe hand placement during operation. It also features a coupler that allows AR-style collapsible stocks to be added. Fitted with a simple integrated open-sight system for close-proximity shots, the R9 is also equipped with several well-placed Picatinny rails that allow a variety of accessories to be added to the shooter's preferred tactical configuration.

The R9's 8in power stroke propels a proprietary 7½in carbon bolt to a velocity of

190fps and at 160 grains these new projectiles have nearly double the kinetic energy of a crossbow pistol's 6¼in darts. The accuracy of the R9 in its pistol configuration matches the original Cobra and when outfitted with a stock the R9 as a carbine is operational out to 35 metres.

This latest offering from Poelang's Ek Archery Research will be available in late 2017.