

BROTHERHOOD OF THE RING

This March a holographic sight from the Swedish company Redring was presented to visiting specialists at the IWA exhibition in Nuremberg.

Photo by Andrey UGAROV



Not long after the presentation of the new sight it had already been tested in Poland, Norway, Denmark, Finland, and even in New Zealand. And everywhere the result was the same – enthusiastic reviews from hunters.

At the very beginning of July, representatives of the weapons section of the editorial staff were invited to a trial of the sight that was arranged by the manufacturer and major Russian importer of weapons and goods for hunting, the “Kolchuga” Company.

The product from Redring is a holographic sight, which can be installed on automatic guns and guns with an over/under barrel configuration and does not require any additional adjustment to weapons. The frame of the sight rises above the shotgun rib only by five millimeters, as the developers tried to make it as low-profile as possible. The installation of the sight does not notably affect the balance of the gun.

According to the sight developer P. O. Ostergren, who used to be a well-known shooter in the past, the new sight will considerably increase shooting effectiveness. The sight has no parallax, and shooting with both eyes open allows the target to be processed faster and more accurately, thus fully utilizing the advantages of binocular vision.

The representatives of the company stated that the design of the sight is protected by several patents. I will mention just two of those: the first one applies to the shape of the aiming mark, which is a red circle that also gave the sight its name, while the second patent protects the method for automatically adjusting the brightness of the aiming mark glow to allow for changes in the level of illumination. The apparent diameter of the aiming mark equals the diameter of the shot-sheaf at a distance of 20 meters (about 60 cm at 1/4 fixed choke).

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It is generally that the proof of the pudding is in the eating, so it was decided to test the effectiveness of the Redring sight on the test bench. The group of testers, in addition to enthusiasts from two shooting magazines, also included experienced practitioners. Representatives of the importer were headed by the trap and skeet shooting coach Alexander Glinski.

After brief instruction given by Henrik Berntsson, one of the creators of the sight, we had a semi-automatic Benelli SuperSport and IZh-27 with installed sights. The test was conducted on a round test bench. As recommended by Henrik Berntsson we started shooting the [trap clay](#) targets on the first number. Nobody experienced any difficulties while shooting the [trap clay](#) targets: everything was extremely simple and clear. Once you see the target inside the ring it is all yours.

As for the opposing targets, some of the testers, who had never shot at the ring before, had a bit of hard time. However, with Alexander Glinski's assistance, who explained the shooter's algorithm of actions, after a few targets everything was settled and the test shooters started hitting the targets confidently again.

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When shooting sideways-moving targets, it is naturally important to make allowances for movement, just as you do when shooting without the Redring sight, and the sight's broad field of view facilitates the performance of this task for the shooter.

The gadget inevitably attracts attention and the first question is how useful it will be for the hunter. There is no doubt that the use of the Redring sight (or any other holographic sight) will promote the increase of shooting effectiveness during game-shooting and, consequently, will lead to fewer wounded game. Secondly, the use of such sights helps to boost the hunter's confidence, however, at the same time confidence does not turn into self-assurance. Thirdly, the hunter, being self-reliant, is less constrained and exerted in the expectation of the aim and shot. He is less afraid of a miss and, therefore, in the long run he starts enjoying the game session, which is, of course, the whole purpose.

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Moreover, if the pleasure is also bolstered with a substantial trophy, his self-esteem will increase. This is how we obtain a wonderful ring, the Redring. One should also not forget that serial gun stocks are not always maneuverable and, therefore, the hunter's experience certainly includes difficulties during aiming. I will not describe the inconveniences that a hunter experiences, if he shoots from the left shoulder with a standard gun. Of course, people get used to everything. While shooting with this type of a sight, there is no necessity for the shooter's eye and barrel to be on the same line.

The results of the Redring sight trial convinced the largest Russian weapons importer of the correctness of the choice made: very soon Russian hunters will be able to join the worldwide Brotherhood of the Ring, the Redring.



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