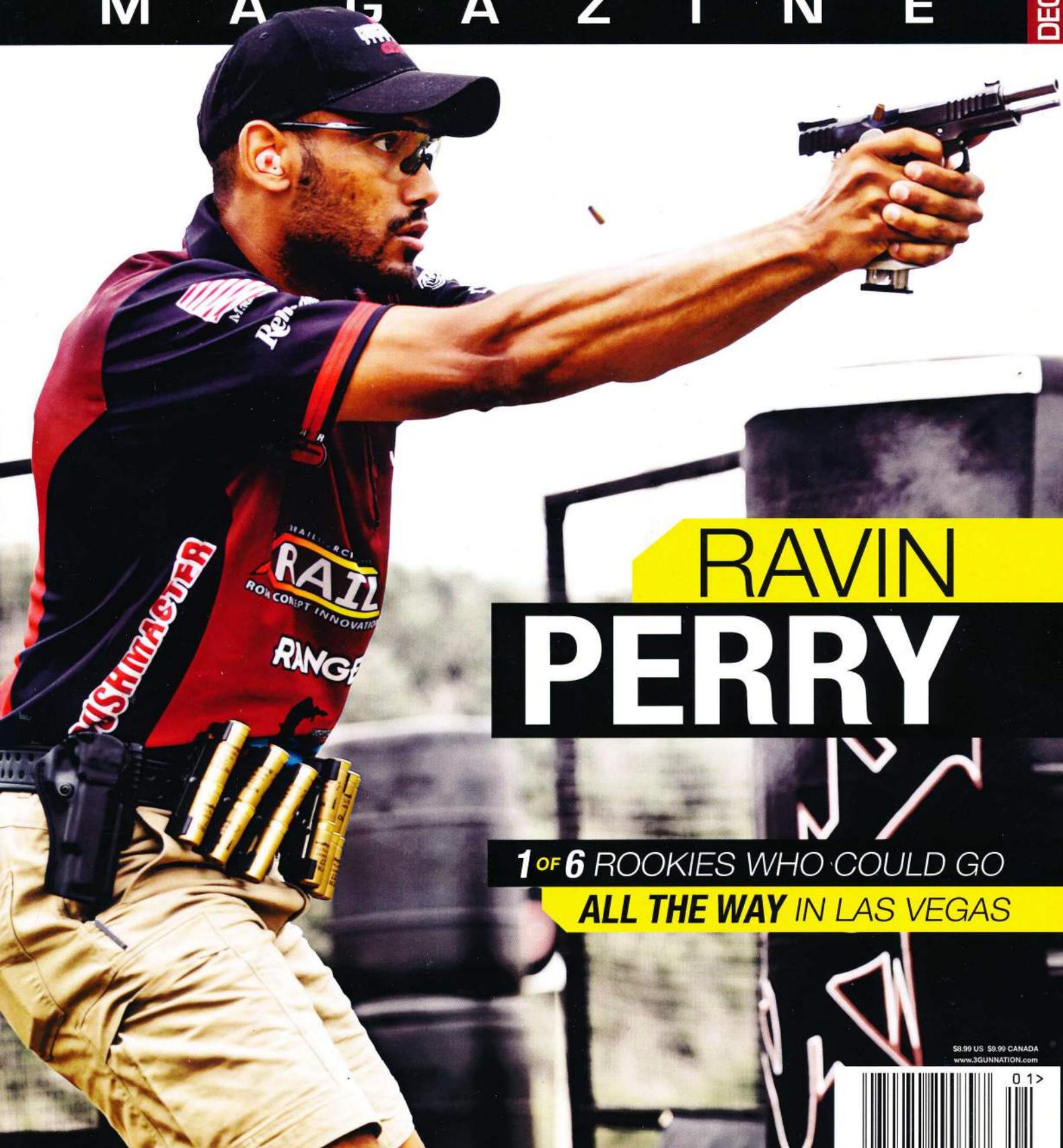


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I saw my first 3-Gun match in 2004. It was the DPMS Tri-Gun Challenge in St. Cloud, MN, at the Del Tone/Luth Gun Club. I was there at the invitation of Randy Luth, founder and then-owner of DPMS and the club, and I distinctly remember the match. Watching shooters I'd only heard of up until then, Bruce Piatt, Tony Holmes, Mike Voigt, Jerry Miculek, and James Darst, along with others, and they could run a trigger. Not only was I impressed with the way they all shot, also their willingness to share information on guns and gear. Generally, when you started shooting 3-Gun, you came out with whatever gear you had available at the time. One of the first things I learned was how important your trigger ends up being when it comes to speed and accuracy. Don't get me wrong, you could hand any one of the top men or women a stock trigger with a decent pull weight and they'll be able to adapt to shooting it with reasonable speed and accuracy. That said, they'd all rather have a trigger tuned to their liking.

We all have our preferences when it comes to our competition gear. There are some out there who swear by a specific brand; that's the beauty of the AR platform the majority of shooters use in 3-Gun. Try everything and use what makes you, your wallet and your trigger finger happy.

At major events during the 2013 season, especially in the Midwest or any of the Tarheel 3-Gun matches, you've probably seen the Hiperfire guys around. I first spoke with Hiperfire's founder, Terry Bender, on the phone a couple of years ago when I saw an ad in the Shotgun News. Being a 3-gunner and an ad/marketing guy, I called Terry to hear more about his project. It was a year or so later when I met Kevin Tapia at the 2012 FNH 3-Gun at Peacemaker National Training Center in West Virginia. Kevin shot in our squad, and we all enjoyed

getting to know him over the course of the match. Kevin asked if he could show us a project he'd been involved with, and it turns out it was the Hiperfire trigger. When I saw the prototype Kevin was a little surprised when I responded, "That's Terry Bender's trigger."

There are three Hipertouch triggers, the 24, 24E and the 24C models. Each has a distinct feel in the trigger pull, but all offer

“ Try everything and use what makes you, your wallet and your trigger finger happy. ”

a positive reset. The first features you'll notice on an installed Hipertouch trigger are the coil springs. They're not what we're accustomed to seeing in a lower. I asked how they were different from the triggers we already use. Terry Bender, being an engineer, did a great job of simplifying it for me.

"The Hipertouch triggers operate just like the stock AR-15/10 fire control group (FCG) with the addition of two compression springs to make it operate something like the toggle switch that turns ON and OFF room lights," Bender said.

"When the hammer is cocked," Bender continued, "the compression springs are biased against the torsion spring installed on the hammer, which reduces the force of the hammer sear on the trigger. This lower force produces less friction and therefore the trigger weight is lowered along with an increase of smoothness during creep. The hammer spring is slightly stronger than the toggle springs so it biases rotation

SHOW ME **HOW IT WORKS**
LET ME **TRY IT OUT**

ARE HIPERFIRE TRIGGERS UP TO THE CHALLENGE?



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of the hammer to begin hammer swing when the trigger is pulled. When the hammer swings onto the firing pin, the toggle spring pair now works in cooperation with the hammer's torsion spring, adding to its striking power. When the toggle spring pair that produces the lowest weight trigger pull is installed, the hammer strike energy is the highest of any AR FCG, OEM or after-market."

To further simplify the engineering into layman's terms, the compression springs take some of the pressure off of the sear/hammer contact point and then assist the hammer as it strikes the firing pin. It's amazing all this came about through another project Terry had been working on to develop an accurate long range semi-auto.

"I developed a large-caliber semi-auto rifle as a personal challenge, i.e. the products in the marketplace in 2003 didn't provide the long-range accuracy I was seeking," Bender said. "Four patents later I presented prototypes to potential investors. The prototypes included a prototype trigger that became the Hipertouch after one of the investors asked whether the prototype fire control group could be adapted for the AR-15. The light bulb went on, and in a week the first trigger patent was applied for and Hiperfire was organized as an LLC."

If you've been paying attention, you've probably noticed shooters at all levels using one of the Hipertouch triggers, from Pro's to Club Series competitors to Juniors. The Hiperfire triggers seem to have taken 3-Gun by storm in 2013.

"So far, the response has been unanimously positive; not one negative comment," Bender said. "Most of those who have actually put their finger on the triggers have been competitive 3-gunners, which we 'targeted' for their skill, knowledge, and shooting equipment discrimination. If the triggers were well received by them, then we would know we had something (thanks to your phone call to me in Fall 2011!)."

Anyone who's been watching has seen the number of national-level competitors who are running one of the Hipertouch models with even more trying them out. None of the top-level shooters I know will switch to a piece of gear without torture testing it themselves—it has to work. No one wants to show up at a match with any doubt about equipment. You can be sure there are plenty of shooters running the Hipertouch now in anticipation of the upcoming 2014 season. I already have the Hipertouch C in my Colt Competition CRPro and the Hipertouch E in my CRPro Heavy gun. I haven't had a single hiccup, even shooting what some consider hard primers.

I'm the guy who says, "Show me how it works, let me try it out." Just as many 3-gunners take the view of "before I'm going to use it, I'm going to try to break it!" I told Kevin Tapia this when he said the Hipertouch triggers were ready. I'll overstuff magazines, seat them too hard, run thousands of rounds of a new load, javelin a newly mounted optic on my CRPro (maybe not as hard as Mark Hanish) into the dump barrel from three yards away, then let it cool off, squirt some oil on it and do it all again. As I mentioned earlier, use what you like; there are a bunch of options and nice triggers out there. I've found Hiperfire triggers to be up to the challenge.