

Battlefront: First Echelon – Engineering Rules v1.0:

Anti-Mine Line-Charge Systems

The British, US and Soviet Armed Forces all employ similar, rocket-propelled 'Line Charge' mine-clearance systems based on the WW2 British 'Conger' system. These systems all work in much the same manner – a rocket is fired across the minefield, towing an explosive-filled hose, which will then be detonated, clearing a path through the minefield as the mines detonate sympathetically.

To use these systems:

1. The vehicle carrying or towing the line-charge system must first conform to the edge of the minefield.
2. An action is used to fire and detonate the line charge: Roll 1 D10 – the attempt fails on a roll of 1 or 2. Otherwise, the attempt will be successful and will automatically clear a one unit-wide breach through the minefield.
3. The depth of the breach depends on the system being used (see below).
4. Only one attempt to breach may be made per turn (they will ordinarily be one-shot weapons).
5. Line Charges may not be fired into the following terrain types: Built-Up Sectors (though Streets and Rubble are fair game), Cleared Woods, Woods with Underbrush, Thicket, Orchard or Sheer Slope.

Giant Viper: This British system is mounted on a trailer and is towed and operated by one of the following vehicles: Centurion AVRE, Chieftain AVRE, Pionierpanzer Leopard, FV-180 Combat Engineer Tractor, Royal Engineers FV-432 APC, Royal Engineers Saxon APC or Royal Engineers Bedford MJ/MK 4-Ton Truck. The system can clear a minefield 5 inches deep.

M58 MICLICS: This American system was first developed and used by the USMC and was finally adopted into widespread US Army service in 1987. Like Giant Viper, the M58 is a trailer-mounted system and can be towed and operated by one of the following vehicles: LVTP/AAVP-7, Amphibious Assault Vehicle, M728 Combat Engineer Vehicle, M113 APC, M561 Gamma Goat or M817 Truck. The M58 can create a breach 3 inches deep.

UR-67: Known as the MTK or MTK-1 to NATO, this is a Soviet vehicle-mounted system, based on the armoured BTR-50 chassis. The system can clear a breach 4 inches deep. The UR-67 has two line-charges per vehicle, so may fire two shots.

UR-77 *Meteorit*: Known as the MTK-2 to NATO, this is a Soviet vehicle-mounted system, based on the armoured 2S1 *Gvozdika* chassis. This vehicle began replacing the UR-67 (MTK-1) during the 1980s. The system can clear a breach 3 inches deep. The UR-77 has two line-charges per vehicle, so may fire two shots.

