

Ocular Interrupters



WHAT ARE THEY?

Ocular interrupters (OI), also known as dazzling lasers, are non-blinding, hand-held or weapon, vehicle, or vessel-mounted lasers and bright, white light devices that communicate discrete, non-verbal warning signals to human targets. The devices use highly directional optical energy to temporarily overwhelm an adversary's visual sense by emitting a credible glare effect.

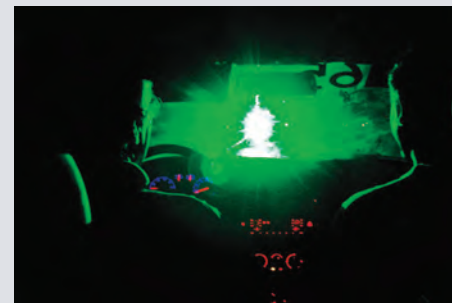
OPERATIONAL IMPACT

OI may be used at entry control points, check points, and for convoy or vessel protection to deny access and move individuals into/out of an area and suppress personnel. Although these capabilities are generic to any high-intensity light source, laser light sources are ideal for non-lethal applications, as the optical energy is collimated and very directional. This allows the user to:

- Precisely deliver the optical energy to a target at long ranges
- Minimize the total power output of the device
- Limits collateral effects to other bystanders

SYSTEM EVOLUTION

Modern systems include the U.S. Marine Corps' Ocular Interrupter (OI), LA-22 GLARE RECOIL® which provides automatic power reduction to ensure eye safety when objects are within the hazard distance, and the U.S. Navy's Long Range Ocular Interrupter (LROI). The LA-22 is completely fielded, while the LROI has begun initial operational capability in FY24. Future and ongoing developments aim to increase the military effectiveness of optical distractors by increasing range and optimizing spot size and system design—depending on the desired military application.



The high-intensity laser light of an optical distracter captures the attention of the targeted vehicle's driver.



Targeting a suspected vehicle with an optical distracter.



LA-22 Glare Recoil