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Smith & Wesson Introduces New SD9 VE™ and SD40 VE™ Pistols

New Self Defense Handguns Offer High-Grade Features at Affordable Price Point

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (June 1, 2012) – Smith & Wesson Corp. today announced that it has unveiled two new handgun models designed to assist with self protection and home defense needs. Chambered in 9mm and .40 S&W, the new Smith & Wesson SD9 VE™ and SD40 VE™ semi-automatic pistols combine value enhanced features with top-grade performance into a reliable option for both home and personal protection uses.

“At Smith & Wesson we continue to introduce new and innovative products that provide today’s consumer with diverse and dependable firearms that address their multiple needs,” said Mario Pasantes, Smith & Wesson’s Senior Vice President of Marketing and Global Professional Sales. “With the introduction of the new SD9 VE and SD40 VE value enhanced pistols, we have taken the best features of the Sigma and SD series pistols and evolved them into a new generation of firearms that meet our customers’ requirement in terms of both functionality and price.”

At the foundation of each SD VE pistol is a lightweight polymer frame, designed to excel in the areas of comfort and durability. On the stainless steel slide, the SD VE pistol features a distinctive two-tone finish along with aggressive front and rear slide serrations for improved firearm handling. Among the key features found on the Smith & Wesson SD9 VE and SD40 VE is the Self Defense Trigger (SDT™). Providing a smooth, consistent trigger pull, the SDT design helps to enhance accuracy while providing users with increased confidence. To further aid in accuracy and resilience, the SD VE is standard with a white-dot front sight and a white two-dot rear sight.

For optimal comfort and control, the SD VE pistol has been fitted with an 18° natural point of aim, ergonomic grip with aggressive front and back strap texturing. The Smith & Wesson SD9 VE and SD40 VE have both been built with a textured finger locator, which is placed directly above the trigger guard on the left and right side of the frame. Underneath the barrel, a universal Picatinny-style equipment rail is standard for optional tactical lights, lasers and other popular accessories.

The SD9 VE is available with either a 16+1 or 10+1 round capacity while the SD40 VE is standard with either a 14+1 or 10+1 magazine capacity. Both pistols have an unloaded weight of 22.7 ounces and a slender width of 1.29 inches. With a 4-inch barrel and an overall length of 7.2 inches, both models are fully compatible for personal protection or home defense measures. Each pistol comes with two magazines and the Smith & Wesson lifetime service policy.

The SD9 VE and SD40 VE have a suggested retail price of \$379 and are currently shipping. For more information on the SD VE pistols, please visit www.smith-wesson.com/SDseries.

A number of high-quality accessories are available for the SD series. A partial list of accessory manufacturers follows. Please contact these or any of your favorites to inquire about availability: LaserMax®, LaserLyte®, Crimson Trace®, Galco® Holsters, Fobus Holsters & Pouches, DeSantis Gunhide® and BLACKHAWK!®.

About Smith & Wesson

Smith & Wesson Holding Corporation (NASDAQ Global Select: SWHC) is a U.S.-based leader in firearm manufacturing and design, delivering a broad portfolio of quality firearms, related products and training to the global military, law enforcement, and consumer markets. The company's brands include Smith & Wesson, M&P and Thompson/Center Arms. Smith & Wesson facilities are located in Massachusetts and Maine. For more information on Smith & Wesson, call (800) 331-0852 or log on to www.smith-wesson.com