PURPOSE: Convert fired pistol cartridge cases into bullet jackets with the C2J-2-H 2-die kit and your Mega Mite or Hydro Press.

IDENTIFICATION: BT-2-H boattail shaping die with tapered external punch, forms a taper on the base of the cartridge in preparation of reducing it to jacket diameter. JRD-1-H jacket reducing die draws the tapered-base cartridge into the proper diameter while making it longer.

Cartridge:	
Jacket:	



OPERATION:

- 1. Deprime the fired case.
- 2. Anneal the case by heating to just below a dull red glow with a standard propane torch.
- 3. Let the cases cool.
- 4. Lubricate with Corbin Swage Lube and press the case, base first, into the boattail shaping die. This helps to close the primer hole, collapses the extractor groove, and removes the rim on semi-rimmed pistol cases.
- 5. Lubricate again, and push the case through the jacket drawing die, base first, with the punch provided with the draw die. The case will be stretched as it is made smaller in diameter, creating a smaller and longer bullet jacket than the size of the original cartridge case.

The jackets made from cases differ from commercial bullet jackets in the wall thickness and taper, base thickness, and material. Commercial jackets are usually much thinner at the base and have less wall taper, but



may be thicker at the open end. The cartridge-case jacket may therefore expand more quickly at lower velocity, and yet stay together after expansion due to the heavy wall near the base. The material is usually 30% zinc, 70% copper whereas commercial jackets are typically either 5% or 10% zinc with the balance of copper. This makes the cartridge case jacket somewhat more brittle and also somewhat harder, yet with insignificant difference in wear or fouling, as compared to the commercial jacket.

Cartridge case jackets are generally similar in accuracy to most commercial bullets, but not usually as accurate as benchrest and custom-made bullets. They are virtually free, however, and adequate for hunting and informal target shooting. Bonding can be done with Corbin Core Bond just as it can with copper jackets. The discoloration from annealing can be largely removed by vibratory polishing.