
Physical Attributes

The TriCluster™ array consists of 8 identical airguns suspended within a rigid steel frame such that the guns form three distinct planes, as shown in the following figures. The frame is floated with four Norwegian buoys attached directly to the frame. Depth adjustment can be achieved by allowing a drop between the buoy attachments and the array frame.

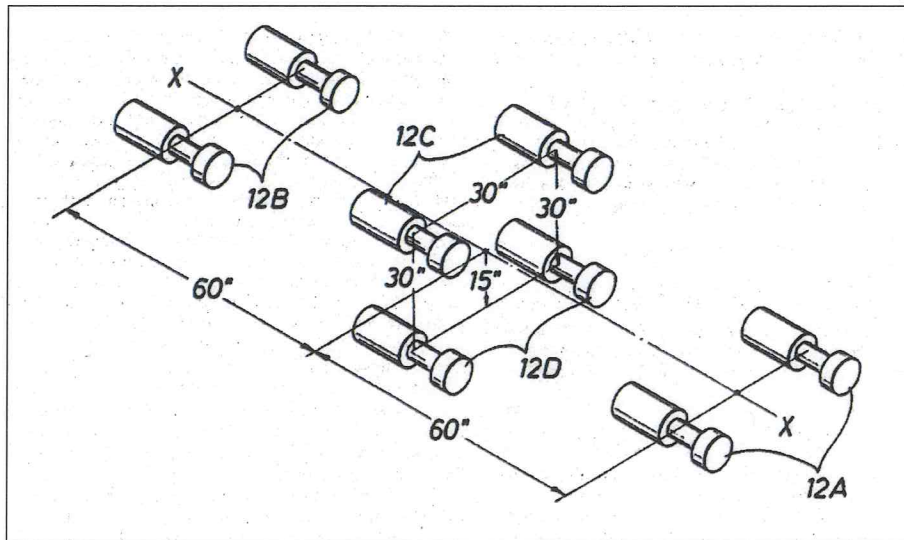


Figure 2 - Schematic of TriCluster™ Gun Arrangement

TriCluster™ is a scalable system, the total gun volume being adjusted by the substitution of guns with different volumes. At present the array can be fielded with total volumes of 80, 160, 320 and 560 cubic inches. In addition, for applications requiring higher signal energy levels, larger volumes are achievable by towing multiple sleds. For example two 560 cu. in. arrays towed to produce a volume of 1,120 cu. in.

All TriCluster™ arrays share a common frame mount, or Tow Sled, shown in Figure 1 above. This Tow Sled is easily shipped in standard sea freight containers. The frame is light enough for airfreight, thus enabling global mobility and fast deployment worldwide. Deployment from the host vessel can be by crane or by custom-designed remote-operated frame and winch system, which also is designed to be quickly dismantled and assembled for shipping by container with the array itself.