It uses a couple "olive pressure fittings?" joined in a coupling? (ive no idea what the actual fittings names are) originaly made to fire a dart via a shotshell primer, but as the dart is destroyed every shot you can load a #7.5 shot into the 1/8" brass barrel (about .10cal) for quite a high velocity. The dart works quite well and is very quiet as the barrel volume more then doubles before the dart leaves the muzzle.
It seems to give a surprisingly high velocity to the arrow, considering its weight and the "dead air space" between the charge and arrow. You could probably increase the velocity by adding wadding to a wire running up inside the arrow to remove the air space, though you would get more noise/pressure.

Firing Pin

- drill bit
- flared end
- 1/8" brass tube
- olive

opposing faces

- Firing pin
- Shotshell primer
- Small rifle primer

working parts

To avoid confusion the thing at the back of the dart in pic is a small rifle primer (probably where the wadding question came from is it?), dont bother with anything less then shotshell primers as I did try small rifle/large rifle/large pistol/shotshell, with shotshell by far the best with no pressure problems.

The holes to accommodate the primers were -
- small rifle - 4.5mm
- large rifle/pistol - 5.5mm
- shotshell - 6.5mm (6mm is a tight fit, hard to get back out)

A 2mm drill bit firing pin is right size for shotshell primers and perfect fit inside the 1/8" fitting, so fits together easy with little work needed.