

June 1, 1992

TO: Ken Soucy
FROM: Jim Ronkainen *JR*

SUBJECT: May Monthly Report

M/700 SS (Stainless Synthetic)

The M/700 SS design acceptance testing has been completed in the Test Lab. Trial and pilot was delayed early in the month due to magnum stock availability and difficulties chambering the rifles. The availability of magnum stocks improved as the month progressed and is no longer the bottleneck. Process engineering is working on the chambering issue, which should be in hand shortly. The magazine follower vendor has modified his tooling and is now supplying followers with the revised magazine spring stop surface.

Several sample M/700 SS Mountain Rifle (MR) stocks from American Plastics/Six Enterprises have been evaluated, but not approved. The last sample stocks were cosmetically acceptable, but the pad in the tip of the fore end did not contact the barrel. The dies are being modified to add material to the pad to guarantee contact with the bottom of the barrel at the 5 and 7 o'clock positions.

Work on the short action M/700 SS calibers is continuing. Jim Hutton successfully retrieved the M/700 SS original drawings from Houston. At its May meeting, the Product Team decided to include the 223 Rem and 300 Weatherby Magnum as part of the M/700 SS product line for 1993.

M/700 DM (Detachable Magazine)

The introduction date for the M/700 DM has been pushed back from 1993 to 1994. Capital funding for the project has been put in the forecast for 4'Q 1992.

The box design has been widened to accommodate magnum shells. The vendor has the new drawings and is in the process of making a prototype box. The vendor also reported success with welding stainless to carbon steel, opening the way for a stainless steel magazine box body across the line. The follower design is being updated to capture a larger included angle on the shell, insuring the shells will not inadvertently pop out of the box. Skip Smith and Joe Mead met with the diecasting vendor last week to discuss the preliminary trigger guard design. Feedback from the vendor will be incorporated into the design at the same it is widened for the new box. The M/700 BDL stock was digitized and, with Dave Findlay's help, was made into a surfaced model. This information is being incorporated into the solid model for the magazine box system.

M/700 Classic for 1993

The parts list for the 1993 M/700 Classic was transmitted.

M/700 VS (Varmint Synthetic)

The drawing package and parts list for the 220 Swift version of the M/700 VS and M/700 Varmint was transmitted.

M/870 Feed Latches

New sample latches have been received from Connecticut Spring and are being evaluated in production. Initial testing has been favorable. A DCR to update the model drawing is being written and will be complete by the end of June.