From:Trull, JohnSent:Monday, July 02, 2007 6:15 PMTo:Gross, Joseph; Shoemaker, Christopher D.; Perniciaro, Stephen; Diliberto, JosephCc:Lasley, Brian; Campbell, Don H.; Fink, JohnSubject:X-Mark Pro Trigger Pull Weights/Specs

Guys,

Eddie Stevenson just returned from a writer prairie dog shoot in Wyoming last week. Upon his return, he called me concerned with heavy trigger pull weights on all of the rifles that they used. All featured the new X-Mark Pro fire control, so I was nonetheless surprised to hear from him that practically all were shipped to him with heavy triggers. I asked him to send the rifles to me for examination. He did, and when I measured them, I was stunned. Here are my results.

Model 700 VLSS TH S6591979 = 5lbs S6591963 = 5lbs Model 700SPS Varmint G6634946 = 5.5 lbs G6652540 = 6.5lbs G6647337 = 6.5lbs G6652948 = 4.5lbs Model Seven CDL LTD ED .17 Rem Fireball 7829048 = 6lbs 7828992 = 7lbs

First, I know that the next thing I am going to hear is that the spec is 3.5lbs - 5.5lbs. We discussed this at length and while I pressed for a tighter range of 3.5-4.5lbs, I was told that the best Ilion could hold was +/- 1lb. I was also assured that this was based upon a statistical mean trigger pull weight of 4.5lbs. What the above represents is a curve in which the population resides a the upper end of the specification and in some cases exceeds specification. That's as far as I really want to get into current specifications and statistics.

Now let's talk about real market implications. A trigger above about 4lbs is unacceptable in today's market. Savage has conditioned the market on lower trigger pull weights though their aggressive marketing campaigns on the AccuTrigger. Trigger's and specifically their trigger pull weight is top of mind with rifle consumers these days and is a central focus in the decision to purchase. Gun writers address it in practically everything they write and our biggest competitor drives the point home in their marketing message. Even Ruger is becoming trigger-centric these days. So, do not take what I say here as MY belief, rather take it as what the market is conditioned to. We have a great trigger in the X-Mark Pro. It is hands down, the best trigger system on any rifle in the commercial market. I would even rival it against a Timney. We are wasting this valuable resource however when we ship it with a trigger pull weight that is by the market's definition today, "unshootable." We automatically send the guy to a gunsmith to spend \$40-\$60 to have his trigger adjusted to an acceptable level. While I believe you guys when you say that under current practices, holding a trigger pull weight to a one pound range is outside of our present capability, I do not believe that we can't change our practices to deliver what the market demands. If we can't deliver what the market demands, they will buy it from someone who can. We need to get to a trigger pull range on the X-Mark Pro of 3-4lbs. We know that we satisfy all SAAMI requirements across the entire line at 3lbs, so there are no concerns there. If I can adjust a Model 700 trigger in less than three minutes and hold it to within a 1/4lb range, I know that we can do far better than we are doing today in the factory. Please don't take my note as undue criticism, however as the brand steward for our product line, I am telling you what has to be done here.

I want to know how quickly we can get to a 3-4lb trigger pull weight in production. This is not a Marketing request guys. This is a specification requirement. I will not let this one go. To coin the old parental phrase "I am doing this for your own good." Well, it is really for the good of the Remington Arms Company and our brand which I will go to the mat to protect. I suggest we schedule a conference call to constructively determine a path forward.

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