

Power Cone Development

J. K. Hamil reported on the status of the Power Cone development. This work has proceeded in a direction which would give not only an automatic alternate to the manual Dial-A-Matic load adjustment, but would also be lower in cost due to the elimination of some parts used in the present gun, such as the magazine spring pin and magazine follower latch, and the replacement of the carrier release with a less expensive slide button release. Functional tests to date indicate that the design may be quite satisfactory, and the development will continue under project authorization already approved.

The work to date, while not conclusive, indicates that the Power Cone cannot be substituted for the Dial-A-Matic on the present gun without other changes. This situation arises from the fact that several design changes were made in the Dial-A-Matic gun shortly before its adoption, and some of these changed the timing of the gun sufficiently to prevent proper functioning with the Power Cone as it had been designed. More specifically, it now appears that the Power Cone as presently made will not operate satisfactorily on guns having the carrier release. Since this feature has received prominent attention in our advertising, it may be a selling point which Sales will be reluctant to abandon. For this reason it is considered desirable to have a Power Cone design which is compatible with the carrier latch. The committee suggested that a project be submitted to support the development work necessary to achieve such a design.

TB and TC Grades

The Sales Department stated that they would like to have a trap gun available in TB and TC grades by May 1, 1956. They would forecast 500 TB and 250 TC guns for the remainder of 1956 and the same quantity in each subsequent calendar year. J. B. Maupin pointed out that trap guns are made for the most discriminating customers and that their relatively high price reflects the extra care and labor involved in their manufacture. He felt that during the first year of production of new models such as the Sportsman-58, it was inadvisable to allocate the required extra effort to the production of a very small quantity of trap grade guns, and furthermore that such a move would involve unnecessary risk since "bugs" inherent in the new model may not have been detected and corrected by this time.

The committee declined to take any action on this item until it had been thoroughly discussed between Sales, Production, and Treasurer's, resulting in a combined recommendation.