

SPORTSMAN K (XS1 and XS2)

At the last meeting, Research and Development outlined plans for developing a new line of autoloading shotguns starting with the Sportsman-58 design in order to minimize equipment and tooling costs. They now report that they believe this approach can be extended to include a new slide action gun to replace the Model 870. In accordance with a suggestion from the Chairman, a uniform system of numbering experimental models should be adopted, and these new guns will be designated as follows:

XS1 Autoloader
XS2 Slide Action

Research and Development reported that this design work is proceeding satisfactorily and that design test shooting to demonstrate the principles of the autoloader is now going on. On the assumption that the XS1 should be available for introduction on January 1, 1960, Research and Development submitted the following tentative schedule:

XS1

Preliminary appearance model	July 1, 1958
Complete design	October 1, 1958
Final appearance model	January 1, 1959
Initial tooling and completion of design revisions	March 1, 1959
Announcement	January 1, 1960

It was noted that design completion has been delayed one month beyond the figure shown in the Development Schedule because of reduced work schedules at Ilion. It is hoped that preliminary costs will be available shortly after the preliminary appearance model or on approximately July 15, 1958. It will be desirable to have the final appearance model by September, 1958 but Research and Development doubts that this can be accomplished. In this connection it was noted that some of the methods of manufacture contemplated will require more elaborate and expensive tooling than previously used which accounts for the relatively long time between submission of the preliminary appearance sample and the final appearance sample. This also emphasizes the importance of having all major decisions made on the preliminary appearance sample since modification of the tooling used to produce the final appearance sample will be expensive and time consuming.