

Gun Functioning With SP Target Load

Research conducted a firing test of ammunition supplied by Bridgeport using terminal velocity of the bolt versus receiver in the M/1100 as a basis of comparison. Test results indicated that no differences in gun functioning were evident in the same type of load with or without power piston. No tests have yet been scheduled for the High Base Load line with the power piston or the SP target load without power piston scheduled to be announced January, 1964. Plans for testing and reporting on their adequacy should be formulated.

Weight Reduction - All Gauges

Concentrated effort by Research on resolving 16 and 20 gauge problems to expedite production start-up has limited progress in the weight reduction program. Mahogany wood has been received and is being processed into stocks and fore-ends for evaluation. The weight chart in Table 2 of Minute #16-1963 was a basis for discussion concerning the weight of the 20 gauge. Sales concluded that if the 7.4 pound weight indicated in the table for that gauge was not exceeded it would be acceptable. Research is continuing its program of investigating all weight reduction possibilities in this model.

16 and 20 Gauge

No significant design changes have been made that will affect appearance. Most of the functional problems in these gauges have been identified and the designers have recommended a number of minor adjustments and changes to expedite the pilot assembly of both gauges. In pilot testing of the 20 gauge, the most difficult problem encountered is the failure of shell to trip the action release latch when being fed from the magazine. The problem is one of properly orienting a smaller shell in a 12 gauge chassis and becomes more prominent as the last shell is fed from the magazine. Research is concentrating on corrective measures to overcome this feeding problem.

Production Status

Field test shipments of nineteen 20 gauge guns were started on October 31st on instruction from Sales. All guns being shipped for field test have had the latest adjustments and changes made to them as recommended by Research and Development and were comparable to those subjected to a preliminary field test at Ilion by Sales representatives. As of the meeting date, no reaction from the field had been received.

Production to the warehouse of the 20 gauge is scheduled for late November. Pilot assembly and testing of the 16 gauge was delayed until all 20 gauge problems were resolved. Ten 16 gauge plain barrel guns have been promised for Sales field test by November 15, and