

MODEL 6600 - STATUS OF PROJECT

The Model 6600 was conceived in January of this year and a rendering was presented to the Committee at the February meeting. In order to have this new model early in 1966, it was decided to telescope and present the project in May, ahead of much of the detailed design work. The plant project estimate of product and equipment cost was therefore based on a mockup plus sketches.

A current economic review based on more complete but not necessarily final design information was transmitted to the plant during June. This indicates higher investment and product costs than shown in the project.

At the meeting in May, R & D reported an anticipated increase in product cost. This was to accomplish desired improvements which included higher quality design for the Bolt Handle, a new Trigger and Trigger Guard.

Within the past several weeks, the plant completed a re-estimate to reflect the changes as developed since the original prototype model as compared to the No. 2 definitive model shown in June. The results were unfavorable so in an effort to bring the economics into line, a number of proposals have been considered. In the area of product cost, one of the principal items of direct labor is for the buffed RK-W finish. The improved lacquer finish as last used for the Model 870 shotgun is now proposed. A mechanized metal finish is proposed for the Barrel and Receiver instead of a hand buff, which was not in the original estimate. Product cost of model No. 3 is estimated at approximately 6% more than that shown in the project.

Equipment requirements are up approximately \$175M due to:

1. Current high plant production is utilizing machine capacity which had originally been earmarked for the Model 6600 (\$100M).