

ILION PLANT QUALITY PROGRAM

J.P. Linde - Review of Ilion Plant Quality Program - Contd.

WOOD FINISHES - Contd.

Drying tests conducted by outside consultants, and DuPont consultants have resulted in a proposal for improved drying facilities for the electrostatic spray line. The new reciprocators apply a thicker finish coat, which requires improved drying facilities. The thicker finish coat adds to the finish depth, improving the quality perception and reducing open grain.

Hand spraying has been improved with the installation of four new spray booths, (Exhibit 6-18). These booths feature a dusting area for work entering the spray room and highly filtered make-up air, (Exhibit 6-19) to minimize contamination. This has improved the quality of hand sprayed Stocks and Fore-ends. 83

A portion of the finished wood components are cut checkered, (Exhibit 6-20). Cut checkered wood has greater perceived value than press checkered wood as the customer visualizes a craftsman spending hours cutting each pattern by hand.

Three new multi-head N/C Machines, (Exhibit 6-21) have been received at Ilion in the past quarter. Two of these will checker Model Four and Six components, with the third earmarked for M/700 application.

METAL FINISHES

The finish on exposed metal parts is also very important, as good metal finishes have always denoted a quality product. The following are examples of improvements to our finishing operations:

1. The finish on the sides of the Vent Ribs was improved in 1977 by adding grinding operations, (Exhibit 6-22). To improve the surface further, the Vent Ribs produced since mid-August are being ground .004" more on each side. The grinding tolerance is also being held tighter to improve the Rib-Receiver alignment.
2. A new Harper Buff Machine to buff centerfire rifle Barrel-Receiver assemblies is now in operation, (Exhibit 6-23). This machine is similar to those used on shotgun Barrels. However, it is designed to increase buffing time, thereby improving the Barrel finish.