

27 July '92

To: Ken Soucy
From: Tom Powers
Subject: Monthly Report for July '92

M/OU Barrels & Vent Rib

Prototype side ribs made from both steel and aluminum have been completed in the tool room using a set of roll-forming dies. A drawing of the side rib, which reflects geometry which was hand formed, has been issued. Square Stamping will get the contract to make the part. They have requested we buy extruded blank stock for them to form. We are proceeding with this action for the steel version, aluminum to follow. Development of the 4140R material for the barrels is proceeding, with 10 prototype barrel assemblies being finish processed now.

M/11-87 Sporting Clays

No change.

M/11-87 European

One butternut stock has been endurance tested on a M/870 to 4,000 rounds with no problems. The actual weight difference between it and the walnut stock it replaced was four ounces. A prototype gun will be assembled, using the Sporting Clays concept. The wood will be butternut and the lightweight action bar sleeve installed.

M/870 & M/11-87 Upgrades

We will issue a new barrel assembly drawing to account for processing procedures.

M/870 & M/11-87 Magazine Follower

The alterations to the single mold cavity are being completed. Prototypes to follow. Testing should confirm this design by the middle of August.

Detachable Recoil Pad

Modeling of the butt end of the stock is complete. Insert, pad and Norbide designs will be started shortly. Completion by the end of August.

M/870 Mil-Spec 3443E

Although the Army awarded the contract to Mossberg, they must pass first article testing. This project will continue with reduced priority.

M/870 Action Bar Lock

Dimensional verification of the four prototypes with the extra tab will be completed so the drawing changes can be made. Since this design requires tooling changes to both the slide and action bar, the vendor has been requested to provide an estimate of cost and timing. They have not responded yet.

Turkey Choke

All patterns have been shot and the computerized pattern evaluations are nearly complete. Preliminary results indicate the straight rifled tube the best performer. It would be a market "First" to offer a straight-rifled choke tube. The approximate part cost is \$9, (\$5 for material and machining + \$4 for ECM rifling). Our vendors will be notified no later than the first week of August so '93 production can be scheduled.

20 Ga. Rifled Barrel

Testing of the samples in Lonoke indicate results similar to those obtained with the 12Ga. fully rifled barrel. Accuracy is the same as or better for Foster-type slugs, when compared to smooth barrels. The greatest improvement with 12Ga. occurred with sabot slugs. Both Federal & Winchester make BRI-style 20Ga. sabot slugs.

Shotgun POI

To be resumed in August.