

May 7, 1993

TO: Ken Soucy
FROM: Jim Ronkainen

SUBJECT: April Monthly Report

M/700 DM

Long action trigger guards are underway, but behind schedule in the R&D NC shop. Tooling for the production trigger guards is on schedule for the July trial and pilot (T&P). Final drawings for the machined trigger guards will be complete next week.

The long action magazine boxes for design acceptance have been received from the vendor and are currently being inspected. The short action sample is still in process at the vendor. Tooling for the magazine boxes has been delayed pending finalization of the latch retaining tab design. The final tooling will not be ready for July. A preliminary T&P will be run with magazine boxes made on prototype tooling, allowing us to verify the processes used on all of the other components. A second T&P will be run with magazine boxes made on the final box tooling. Three sample boxes have been black oxidized for color match to the powdercoated/painted trigger guards. Other sample boxes will be powdercoated to compare color match to the black oxidized samples and the trigger guards.

The finish build up experiment at S&K is complete and the stocks are in Ilion. The parts are now being checkered at NC checker. At Lexington's request, we are going to shoot an accuracy test with the sample stocks to see what effect finish build has on accuracy of the rifles. Past qualitative data shows accuracy may be improved with less finish build up in the receiver seat and the barrel groove.

Based on feedback from the sample rifle shown at the April Product Team meeting, the latch design has been changed to better guide the shooter's fingers to the working end of the magazine latch. The updated design has been transmitted and design for the MIM mold is underway. The part designs for the investment cast latches and followers are complete and at the vendor. We expect sample components of the latches and the long action magazine follower from the investment casting vendor in early June with production quantities available the first week in July. Fixture design for the secondary machining of the investment castings is in process. Latches for design acceptance testing from the tool room were delayed due to material availability.

Because of the delays in the delivery of prototype parts, design acceptance testing will take place in mid-to-late May.

M/700 SS for 1993

Trail and pilot guns are currently in test in the R&D Test Lab.

M/700 Synthetic Stock

The design for the recoil pad was updated to correct two areas of "negative" draft. Part numbers have been assigned to all components and levels for the parts. Transmittal of the parts list and drawings will be in May. Mold run off will be on 6/14.

M/700 Classic for 1994 - 6.5 x 55 Swedish Mauser

The decision was made at the April Product Team meeting to go forward with the 6.5 x 55 Swedish Mauser using the CIP/new SAAMI dimensions for the cartridge and chamber. The drawing package will be transmitted in May.

M/870 Latches

No activity.