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MONTHLY REPORT - APRIL 1993: OVER/UNDER SHOTGUN

Reports from the recent NRA show indicate that the Peerless was the main attraction at the Remington booth. No major negative comments were heard, even though the guns displayed were the early models with deliberately mismatched surfaces at the frame, mono-block and fore-end iron. Wood margins were also relatively large.

Dry cycle testing of ejectors, has confirmed that the buffered design has a far superior endurance life than the current design with various types of surface and heat treatments. Average endurance life of five sets of buffered ejectors was 17,774 cycles, as compared to an average of 3,853 cycles for the best of the unbuffered types. Because no fired cases are being ejected, this dry cycle test is much more severe than actual shooting, therefore the endurance life numbers reported can only be used for a comparison. Current plans are to still use the unbuffered ejectors for the field guns and possibly use the buffered style, which might be patentable, for the target guns.

The first draft of an Inspection Manual has been completed and turned over to Process Engineering for their comments. The manual includes specifications for wood and metal fits, as well as lubrication requirements and a recommended series of function tests.

Technical information is being furnished to our patent counsel to describe the four potentially patentable features of the gun. The first one, for the automatic ejection system, has been submitted. The remaining three are still being worked on and until they are completed, work on the field service manual will be delayed.

Trial and pilot testing has been delayed so that some critical production processes can be optimized. This delay will also enable the Test Lab to make some needed environmental changes to the shooting jack booths to eliminate a smoke problem.