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Remington Arms Company Inc.
RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL CENTER
315 WEST RING ROAD
ELIZABETHTOWN, KY 42701

An initial sample of 10 guns with iron sights were received in January for T & P testing. These guns were subjected to SAAMI Jar-Off, Drop and Rotation tests, shot for POI/Sight Adjustment and then subjected to dimensional checks for sight hole depth.

Only 9 guns were subjected to the SAAMI abuse and POI tests since one gun was damaged while adjusting fire control settings to minimum process specification. All 9 guns passed all three SAAMI abuse tests. These same 9 guns were tested for POI/Sight Adjustment at 100 yards in the long range to determine if there was adequate sight adjustment with the iron sights. All 9 guns were able to have POI moved to POA at 100 yards, however the rear sights on average were one graduation from the rear extreme position (almost all the way down). This gives ample adjustment range to raise the POI for longer range shots but limits the amount of adjustment should the POI need to be moved further downward for shorter range shots or varying bullet/load configurations. Inspection of sight hole depths were measured just under minimum drawing specification on all sight holes. This is a difficult measurement to make since it is dependent on probe tip shape, size and measurement location and orientation. A shallow hole poses no safety concern as long as adequate thread engagement remains for good positive sight retention. Mayfield was notified of E-town's measurements. E-town would recheck new guns for sight hole depth after refining their inspection technique. Mayfield was asked to verify their process controls and then monitor product during the next run of sighted product which is scheduled for late June or early July. It was noted that front sights came loose relative to the base during both the abuse and POI tests. Mayfield was notified of the sight retention situation and all 10 guns were returned. Mayfield priorities were focused on production of the scoped product until a steady state production process was established. They then refined the dovetail process that attaches the front sight to the base and reworked the returned test guns.

These same samples were received back in E-town for additional testing in May. Iteration 2 testing was to consist of a recheck of sight adjustment at 100 yards due to the marginal results from the first test and the fact that sights were being reworked. In addition a 60 rd. per gun live fire test was added to check for adequate sight retention. This time around seven of the nine guns tested for POI could not be adjusted in at 100 yards. With the rear sights moved all the way to the rear on the base point of impacts were from 6" to 12" high. The two remaining guns could be adjusted in but rear sights were moved to the extreme rear position. Investigation by Design determined that the barrels on these guns were bent. This either occurred during the SAAMI abuse testing or during product rework in Mayfield. Mayfield was contacted and 10 new guns were requested for another POI/Sight Adjustment test (Iteration 3). While E-town was waiting for the 10 new guns the 60 round live fire test was run on Iteration 2 guns. No sights came loose during this live fire test.

Iteration 3 was a test to re-qualify POI/Sight Adjustment on 10 new guns. These guns were received in late May and tested at 100 yards in the long range. All 10 guns POI could be adjusted to the POA with adequate adjustment remaining in the rear sight. Sight position varied from 2 to 6 notches from the rear or lowest position. These guns were returned to Mayfield before sight hole depth could be checked, however three new iron sighted guns were received in early June for other testing. Sight hole depths were checked on these samples and all hole depths measured in specification.

May 2001 Trial & Pilot Test - Remington M710 Centerfire Rifle w/Iron Sights;
R & D Technical Center Project No. 241095; TI.W0395, TI.W0405, TI.W 0505
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