

October 19, 1990

TO: Hal Munson  
FROM: Jim Ronkainen JR

SUBJECT: October Monthly Report

STAINLESS STEEL M/700

I showed two samples of the proposed design for the M/700 S/S at the Product Team meeting on September 27. Both samples were "mock ups" because the stainless steel barreled actions being turned down in the Custom Shop were not ready in time. The sample preferred by the Product Team was B6769136, a shot blasted BDL action without sights and with a synthetic (M/700AS) stock. This configuration is also preferred by production for its manufacturability.

Ed Ford is currently running several M/700 416R long action receivers on production tooling to prove out the capability of current process equipment. Roger Hatfield will use several of the stainless receivers produced by Ed to develop the heat treatment process for the receiver. Roger has plated parts for 10 M/700 fire controls with electroless nickel for corrosion resistance. Roger also plated one shot blasted M/700 barreled action. In my opinion, the finish is too bright to be acceptable. Mike Keeney is getting quotes to cast the bolt handle in stainless steel. Mike is also having sample bolt heads made from Nitronic 60 and Gall-Tuff stainless steels. Both alloys are supposed to prevent galling, which is a concern with the locking lugs on the bolt head.

If this gun goes into production, we will not be able to use M/700AS stocks since the limited supply of Arylon will be depleted by production of the standard M/700AS. This program may provide impetus to revise the stock mold for a new material.

Complete specifications and timing for the M/700 S/S program have not been developed yet, but a meeting will be held November 28 to discuss centerfire rifle strategy and to develop the final specifications for the gun.