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MONTHLY REPORT - AUG. & SEPT. 1992: OVER/UNDER SHOTGUN

The endurance test of five pre-design acceptance guns is now complete. All five guns achieved their goal of no major part failures or serious malfunctions in 10,000 rounds (50% 3 inch magnums). Examination of the guns after the test revealed no excessive wear on any of the components, except for the cocking rod bearing area at the front of the frame. This will be greatly increased on the next series of guns. No parts failed during the test, however one ejector was found with a crack through a casting defect. 3" magnum load ejection was the only problem encountered, when chambers get dirty.

Two of the guns have now been fitted with new barrels, set up to accept separate aluminum side ribs, and sent back to the test lab for intentional abuse, accuracy and drop testing. Accuracy testing, using both the Remington and SAAMI sight pictures, is complete. Initial indications are that the spread between the point of impact of the top and bottom barrels is still too great. However, problems encountered during the barrel brazing process might have affected the spread. Both guns passed the drop test upto a height of four feet with the safety off. One gun also passed the intentional abuse test. It was subjected to two 12/20 burst tests through both barrels and then a 60000 PSI high pressure round through both barrels. At the completion of the test the gun was still intact but inoperable, with a crack in the head of a pivot pin and on one side of the frame, as well as a greatly increased headspace. Two additional guns are being prepared for the same series of tests.

It appears that the weight goal of 7 1/4 pounds for the 26" barreled gun cannot be achieved without a material change from steel to aluminum for the frame side plates. The average weight of the 26" barreled gun will be 7 pounds 5 ounces. The 28" gun will be 2.5 ounces heavier. Marketing has accepted this, but will still advertise the gun at 7 1/4 pounds.

One of the investment casting vendors scheduled to supply five critical parts for the gun has gone out of business. The wax casting molds, which Remington owns, have been retrieved and sent to an alternate supplier. Hopefully his wax and process will be compatible with the original vendor and give us parts that are dimensionally correct. If not, parts delivery may be delayed while mold tooling is reworked.

Work has started on the owners instruction manual, and model part drawings are being prepared for formal transmittal.