

The Research & Development and Production Departments consider January, 1963 to be the earliest practical date for announcement of this item, in view of current progress. While some improvement in completion of various phases of work might be made by augmenting work force, and telescoping work phases, it could only be done with considerably increased cost and risk of poor gun performance.

The objectives to be achieved with the Model 58, 5-Shot Autoloader are defined as follows, by the Sales Department:

1. Five shot capacity, five gauges, Field - Trap - Skeet - Magnum types.
2. Improved reliability and endurance.
3. Improved overall appearance.
4. Easy action opening and easy magazine loading.
5. Retention of basic stock fit dimensions of the current Sportsman 58.
6. No change from balance and pointing characteristics of current Sportsman 58.
7. Elimination of receiver cracking.
8. Competitively priced A and ADL Grade.
9. Availability -

Field Test - September and October, 1962
Warehousing- November, 1962
Announcement-January, 1963

The Committee approves the listed objectives and the schedule for completion of this item.

The Research & Development Department defined status of features of this item, as follows:

1. Stock - Final conformation of stock has been established. Checkering pattern has been defined, but work is continuing to provide recessed border and adjustments in checkering fineness.
2. Fore-end - Design and conformation of fore-end is an unresolved problem. Two consultants have been called in to assist in design.