

MODEL 1100 FORE-END COMPLAINTS

The 12 ga. Model 1100 was introduced in 1963. Both customer and field complaints were quickly registered on fore-end side play and soft fit to receiver. This condition was corrected in late Spring. After that, we started to receive complaints on fore-ends cracking at the top rear left corner. Contributing cause was inadequate cushioning in package. This was corrected promptly. There were no other complaints of magnitude until early 1965.

In 1965, split fore-end complaints grew to substantial proportions. As a result, much time was spent in meetings and process studies trying to determine the cause of this major defect. Variable pressure checkering was tried and still is in partial use. The fore-end fit to the receiver was also softened in late summer. In still another attempt to correct the problem, fore-ends in all gauges were opened by .015" on each side to relieve pressure and give more clearance at the barrel guide ring. Finally, in February, 1966 the new groove cuts were developed and put into 12 ga. fore-end production, 16 and 20 gauges followed in March.

We now believe the new groove cuts will immeasurably help the situation, but at this early date, we lack sufficient data to accurately evaluate the change. The plant is recording returns or replacements of split fore-ends with the new groove cuts. So far, March shows 23 returns and April 16.

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