

CENTER FIRE RIFLESMODEL 742-X RIFLE - AUTOLOADING CENTER FIRE
(Introduction 1975)

R & D reported that development of the Model 742-X rifle is one week behind schedule. 60% of the components for the prototype rifle are being made by vendors. There have been problems on delivery, cost and quality of these components.

A backup for the spring lock gas system is in development. Three different trunnion systems will be in test in early July.

By January, 1973, the design and introduction date can be evaluated with greater confidence. Many things have to be proven before starting to make five or more prototype rifles. Since it will take six months to make these rifles, release of model drawings in June, 1973, is questionable.

Work on the shotgun model is progressing. Both the rifle and shotgun are heading toward using more of the standard machining processes. This will help make it possible to offer either product without the other. A firmer evaluation of the economics of separating the rifle and shotgun is needed.

Marketing reported that the Browning price increase of approximately 20% has helped sales of the Model 742. Nothing has been heard about competition introducing any new autoloading center fire rifles.

R & D asked if it was likely that the shotgun would be needed first. New patents indicate that Winchester is developing a new autoloading shotgun. At this time there is not enough information available to warrant moving shotgun development ahead of the rifle.

MODEL 700 BOLT ACTION CENTER FIRE RIFLE - LEFT HAND
(Introduction 1973)

Production reported that trial and pilot operations are in progress on Model 700 left hand rifle components. Assembly and testing is scheduled for September. Production to warehouse will start in October.

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