

CENTER FIRE RIFLESMODEL 742X MAGNUM RIFLE - AUTOLOADING CENTER FIRE  
(Introduction 1977)

R & D reported testing of a prototype Model 742X rifle, including the spring gas lock system, started. There was insufficient gas energy to operate the rifle. The action was hard to unlock - there was binding between shank of Bolt and Bolt Carrier. Also Firing Pin indent was minimum. It is expected that design changes required will be developed by January 1, 1974.

Production reported that processing and estimating to date on the Model 742X rifle show that it is necessary to do multiple operations on a part for each machine load and unload whenever possible in order to approach an acceptable factory cost. At low volume production, it appears this can be accomplished on N/C machines with tool changers. Five major components of the rifle are being reprocessed with this approach. Each process is being "wrung out" through several reviews. The frame process will be ready the week of November 12 for Methods & Standards to determine factory cost. For an acceptable project to be developed, it is necessary for this effort to show that these 5 components can be produced for less than the cost included in the original high spot factory cost estimate. (This high spot estimate -20% has been used in all economic evaluations to date.) This type of processing probably will require more capital than previously estimated. It has been shown that capital investment is the least sensitive of several variables affecting return on investment.

MODEL 700 BOLT ACTION CENTER FIRE RIFLE - IMPROVEMENTS  
(Introduction 1974)

Production reported that Model 700 improved rifles have passed design conformation testing. A production sample rifle will be presented in December.

The assembled bridge, tables and frame of #1 N/C checkering machine has been delivered to EDL. While deliveries were delayed, it is still felt that the project will be on schedule