

FIREARMSWOOD PRESS FORMINGMODEL 870, 12-16-20 GAUGE FORE-ENDS

Production reported that existing equipment to press form Model 870 Fore-ends has been moved into a production area. Dies are being modified and equipment is being test operated in order to improve finished product quality and reduce operating cost. It is expected that production quantities will be run in March.

Machine studies are in progress to determine causes and corrections required to reduce wood machining tolerances to improve the percentage of parts acceptable for press forming. Internal machining tolerances on Fore-ends are more critical than on Stocks due in part to the thinner section being pressed.

A review of the economics was requested.

SHOTGUNSMODEL 1100, 20 GAUGE LIGHTWEIGHT SHOTGUN

R & D reported that fabrication of parts for three prototype Model 1100, 20 gauge lightweight skeet shotguns is on schedule. Testing will be completed in March.

Production reported that five blanks each of African Iroko wood and Danta wood were run through the Model 1100 lightweight sanding process and five of each through the Model 1100 press formed process. Preliminary conclusions are:

Iroko - weight comparable to mahogany. Large pore structure and yellow color will make sanding process and finishing expensive. Four out of five cracked to some degree in press form process. Finished appearance of wood is coarse. Wood is reported to be abrasive to cutting tools.

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