

miscellaneous rim fire items. Extreme flexibility requirements, combined with a relatively high-speed equipment line, has been the challenge--both from a technical and cost standpoint.

"In recent meetings, Marketing has agreed to try to define a product strategy which will provide a better route to improved production facilities at a reasonable investment cost and lower technical risk.

"Charts XXVIII through XXX summarize the programs.

"For shotshell, programs with forecasted milestone dates are shown for each of our key shotshell manufacturing areas.

"For center fire, we expect to complete prototyping by year-end 1981. Assuming success, and our confidence is high, our entire center fire facility could be modernized by year-end 1984. 83

"For rim fire, we will strive to have a product strategy this fourth quarter and an equipment plan defined by the third quarter, 1981. That phase of work would be followed by development of an equipment line for production."

FIREARMS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

C. B. Workman discussed Firearms Development Programs and plans for 1980 and 1981 as follows:

"This presentation covers our basic objectives, reviews the organization changes that have taken place to meet those objectives, and highlights the various projects included in our Research budget.

"The primary objective of the Firearms Research Division is to develop products that will be successful in the marketplace. This requires a balanced program of frequent improvements to current arms, timely announcements of major products, and an aggressive effort directed at process and materials research.

"To accomplish this objective, an organization must be staffed with the right proportions of product knowledge and technical training.

"A look at the headcount for the past several years (Chart XXXI) shows little change until 1980. However, a look at the composition of the various sections will show how the teams that are necessary to develop new products are taking shape. Charts XXXII through XXXIV show the significance of the change in the number of exempt salary