

QUALITY ISSUESPACKAGING - Contd.

The Packaging Committee will report progress at the October Operations Meeting.

PRESS FORMED STOCKS

Compared to sanded Stocks used by all major competitors, the fit of Butt Plates, Grip Caps, and Spacers to Press Formed Stocks leaves something to be desired. Marketing reported that poor fitting accessories, quite common on press formed Stocks, are not the mark of a quality firearm. They also pointed out that wood recovery at the Butt Plate is also associated with Press Formed Stocks but is not evident at the point of purchase. 83

Production responded that Press Formed Stock Assemblies are presently manufactured to Remington's standards. If Marketing finds that standard unsatisfactory, Production will evaluate ways to tighten the standards. While no immediate solution is readily apparent, a number of engineering ideas have been presented which have merit.

Research commented that Smith and Wesson Stocks are sanded, and as such have near-perfect fitting accessories. They also pointed out that the technology exists to produce a sanded Stock equivalent in quality to the press formed Stock. The economics of doing this will be evaluated.

POWDER METAL COMPONENTS

Marketing pointed out that Powder Metal components are often defective in color and finish. Model 1100 Magazine Caps have the tendency to turn purple after manufacture and usually have a rough surface finish. Model 870 Barrel Guide Rings also tend to discolor. Iron sights made from Powder Metal have a porous finish, especially Front Sight Blades. Competitive manufacturers do not use Powder Metal parts in these areas and definitely have an edge in perceived quality with regard to these parts.