

QUALITY ISSUESPOWDERED METAL COMPONENTS - Contd.

Research will analyze all parts beginning with those critical to safety. Parts categorized as functional will be analyzed next, leaving the visual category until last, except where immediate solutions are apparent. Wherever indicated, designs, materials and/or processes will be changed.

To date, Research has classified 68 parts as primarily visual, 43 as functional, and 17 as critical to safety. This program should be well under way by the end of 1980.

The Chief Engineer pointed out that most powder metal parts cause no problems in firearms. He showed the Committee samples of powder metal parts used in Remington and competitors' firearms. He indicated that color problems with powder metal are consistent, and some cannot be overcome. In addition, some components are poor candidates for powder metal.

Production requested input from Marketing and Research regarding which powder metal parts require better finish and/or color. The Chairman requested that finish and color standards be established for powder metal components. All samples must be approved by Marketing.

VENT RIB FINISH

Marketing reported that file marks, dents, and uneven finish on the edge of ventilated ribs detract from the quality image usually associated with a ribbed Barrel. Improved Barrel finishes now used on Remington shotguns tend to highlight such defects. They also pointed out that competitive models have a superior finish on their Ventilated Ribs.

Production reported that Ventilated Ribs are presently ground and the Barrels are polished. Since Marketing has recently expressed an interest in improving the finish on the Ribs, Production will investigate methods to accomplish this.