

To: JWB
FEM
FHS
From: RSM

Subject: Competitive Reviews: firecontrol and Safety

On Monday March 11 ^{and Thursday, March 14} competitive reviews of bolt action firecontrols were held in the Research Conference Room. Six major competitors designs were reviewed and a listing of comments follows.

Weatherby Vanguard (S+W 1500 similar)

- plunger trigger block, no sear block
- 788 style sear
- cast trigger
- right side tang safe; well position possible
- S+W has no trigger overtravel stop screw
- trigger adjustable out of stock
- fully machined flat bottom receiver
- plunger safety detent ~~over~~

Browning BBR

- trigger block, no sear block (screw through trigger)
- center tang safe
- tension spring for safety detent
- bolt lock on safe
- can't put safe on after firing or with open bolt

can't put safety on after firing
can put safety on with bolt open

- lots of trigger/sear engagement
- weight of pull adjustable out of stock
- stamped metal housing
- safety link not peened or staked

Ruger 77

- tang safe
- trigger housing part of cast receiver
- bolt lock on safe
- can't put safe on after firing or with bolt open
- torsion safety detent spring
- weight of pull adjustable from bottom in stock
- safety link not peened or staked
- flat bottom receiver

Winchester 70

- bolt plug three position safety, firing pin block
- extremely hard to put safe on
- exposed component, fire control
- pre-set engagement, lots of overtravel
- weight of pull adjustable out of stock
- trigger pull factory set to 6 lbs.

Sako 661R

- action tailored to cartridge size (fewer feeding problems)
- trigger block, no sear block

- plunger safety detent; null position probable
- fully adjustable out of stock
- firing pin head/sear engagement determined by pivot and two screw arrangement
- sear slides vertically in operation

Cot Saver

- bolt lock on bolt handle
- housing all stampings
- engagement adjustable in stock
- trigger block, no sear block
- roller on top of sear
- center tang safety
- stamped safety detent
- can't put safe on after firing
- can put safe on with bolt open
- loaded chamber indicator on receiver

A drop test of these models will be scheduled to determine what happens when weight of pull adjustment screws are backed out.

I will also attempt to determine what court cases are pending against our competitors as well as the issues concerned.

A Ruger 77-22 with a bolt plug safety that blocks the firing pin and sear will be purchased for evaluation.