

April 29, 1992

TO: Ken Soucy
FROM: Jim Ronkainen

SUBJECT: April Monthly Report

M/700 SS

Design acceptance testing on the M/700 SS continues in the Test Lab. Testing on the magnum rifles has been successfully completed. Both magnum and standard caliber guns have passed the intentional abuse and SAAMI drop test while endurance testing continues on the standard caliber rifles. Endurance testing of the standard calibers will be complete by the end of May.

Trial and pilot of the M/700 SS has been slowed due to availability of stocks from American Plastics. I visited American Plastics in early April to witness the run off of the stock mold. Most of the problem areas noted from my March visit had been corrected, but several new problems were found. These problems have since been corrected and the most recent delays have been due to secondary finishing difficulties with the stock. Skip Smith visited American Plastics again last week to help them overcome their difficulties and to help them organize their finishing operations.

Tooling to alter the magazine spring stop surface on stamped magazine followers to prevent the magazine spring from moving under recoil is complete and in use. The design of the magazine spring stop on the follower has been revised and sent to the vendor to alter his tooling for the part. We will continue to alter parts in-house until parts made to the new design are available from the vendor.

I have started work to add four short action calibers to the M/700 SS product line for 1993. Work on this is being held up because the original drawings are in Houston. Jim Hutton is working to have them returned.

M/700 DM

A project timeline for the detachable magazine (DM) project was presented at the April Product Team meeting. Timing for this project is extremely tight. Project level economics are now underway with the goal of having a project for signature by the end of May.

Initial testing of the prototype DM boxes showed the design would not handle magnum cartridges. The design is being widened to accommodate both magnum and standard cartridges in the same box. Widening the magazine box will change the magazine follower, trigger guard, and stock inletting. When drawings for the new design are available, another prototype box will be built and tested. Bob Kozakowski is digitizing two M/700 BDL stocks so that we can define surfaces for the outer surface of the stock, especially in the area of the latches. A solid model of the DM will be used to verify magazine capacities and the aesthetics of the design.

M/700 VS

Work to add 220 Swift to the M/700 VS has begun. A cost estimate is underway for economic evaluation of this proposal.

M/700 Classic

Transmittal of the 222 Rem for the 1993 M/700 Classic is underway. The 222 Rem was transmitted as the initial 1992 M/700 Classic. A parts list and RAMAC are the only two items necessary for transmittal.

M/870 Feed Latches

No change since last month.