

July 6, 1992

TO: Ken Soucy
FROM: Jim Ronkainen *JR*
SUBJECT: June Monthly Report

M/700 SS (Stainless Synthetic)

All calibers of the M/700 SS have passed trial and pilot testing. The stock for the M/700 SS MR (Mountain Rifle) has been approved and is in production. I assisted production in developing a repair procedure to re-rollmark barreled actions with light marking. Production was able to repair 160+ of 175 barrels with light marking using the procedure. Environmental testing to compare the M/700 SS to the Ruger and Browning stainless steel offerings is in the planning stages and should be complete by the end of the month.

The original drawings returned from Houston are being returned to the files. Work on the M/700 SS caliber additions for 1993 continues. The transmittal will be ready by mid-July. Preparation of a catalog photography gun is underway and will also be complete by mid-July. Project economics cannot be run until rifle ATO does an engineering estimate and marketing provides prices and volumes.

M/700 DM (Detachable Magazine)

Ed Klock and I met with Endicott Machine and Tool (EMT) to go over the new magazine box drawings with them. As a result of our discussions with EMT, we have incorporated several changes to the box design that will improve its performance and manufacturability. EMT now has the new drawings and is making a prototype box. Design of the trigger guard is underway. We have widened the trigger guard to accommodate the wider box and are incorporating feedback from the diecaster to improve the manufacturability of the part. The design for the magazine follower and latches as MIM parts is complete. We will go over the designs with MIM to address any concerns they may have. Preliminary design of the magazine spring is underway. I expect to have a working prototype of the box magazine by early August.

M/700 CS (Camo Synthetic)

I have worked with the stock vendor and ATO to approve the new polypropylene versions of the Arylon stocks for production. One item remains to be addressed before the LA BDL standard and LA BDL magnum can be tentatively approved for initial production. Long term, two items must be addressed for complete approval of the stocks for production. Tooling for the SA BDL standard is incomplete and the availability date for stocks is open. I will assist ATO in their evaluation of these stocks when they are available.

M/870 Feed Latches

Testing of the new latches from Connecticut Spring continues to be favorable. I have assisted ATO to develop gaging and an inspection procedure for the new latches. The DCR for the latches was completed before shutdown and will be transmitted this week.