

July 31, 1992

TO: Ken Soucy
FROM: Jim Ronkainen

SUBJECT: July Monthly Report

M/700 SS (Stainless Synthetic)

The original drawings returned from Houston have all been returned to the files. The M/700 SS 1993 caliber additions (short action and 300 Weatherby Mag) were transmitted in mid-July. The Rifle ATO group has completed their engineering estimates, Dan Shumway has completed the economics, and Mr. Brown has approved the project. The short action catalog sample gun has been delayed due to production holdups at bolt handle braze. A long action stock will have to be used for this gun and the photos retouched because short action stocks will not be available for at least another month. The rifle will be ready the first week in August.

A permanent identification mark (S for stainless, C for carbon steel) will be cast into the bottom side of the the bolt handles to help the plant distinguish carbon from stainless steel parts. Until the vendors can modify their tooling, the stainless parts will be marked with a permanent magic marker. The stock vendor has been notified that the fit of the recoil pad to the stock at the toe needs to be improved. The rear guard screw was lengthened to increase engagement.

M/700 DM (Detachable Magazine)

A prototype detachable magazine box will be ready around the middle of August. EMT is making the magazine box sub-assembly and the tool room is making the other components. Ed Klock and I met with the aluminum die casting mold vendor, Product Technologies, to go over the trigger guard design for manufacturability. Product Technologies felt the design would be producible, even with 518 aluminum die casting alloy. Work is commencing on the short action version of the detachable magazine.

M/700 CS (Camo Synthetic)

The initial polypropylene stocks for the M/700 CS were run at American Plastics. We noted several problems with the stocks, particularly a misalignment of the magazine well with the inletting for the trigger guard. The vendor revised the tooling, improving the misalignment, but not to our complete satisfaction. The tooling will be revised to meet our standards. Slides to make short action stocks are at least 2 full weeks from completion, which is much later than we were earlier lead to believe. This delay will jeopardize the availability of short action M/700 CS for the fall hunting season.

M/7

The drawing package to add 17 Rem and the new youth offerings to the Model 7 has been transmitted. Rifle ATO has completed the engineering estimate, Dan Shumway has completed the economics, and Mr. Brown has signed the project.

Canadian Ranger Rifle Request

The Canadian government is planning to purchase new, high power, bolt action rifles to replace the Lee-Enfield rifles currently in service with the Canadian Rangers. I have reviewed the preliminary specification package for the new rifles and found that the M/700 does not currently meet several of the essential requirements of the specifications. Bill Forson will be in contact with the Canadians to determine the importance of the "essential" points of the specifications we do not meet.

M/870 Feed Latches

The drawing package for the latches was transmitted the first week in July. The 12 gauge latches have been approved and are now in production. A 20 gauge latch sample run for approval is tentatively scheduled for September.