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Remington Arms Company Research & Development Technical Center 315 West Ring Road Euzabethtown, KY 42701

d. "The cartridge should be seated in the chamber as far as practicable with the fingers. The bolt or breech mechanism should be closed gently in order not to disturb the position of the powder in the cartridge case. The object of this method of handling cartridges is to position the propellant powder at the primer end of the cartridge case by permitting it to fall gently against the primer and while rotating the case."

Note that these procedures for proof testing were developed to consistently position the propellant thereby providing greater consistency of proof pressures. Failure to follow this procedure during the definitive proof testing of each chamber of the firearm could result in pressure levels significantly below the minimum proof pressure specification as determined for the cartridge.

Any firearms components, such as bolts, bolt heads, receivers including chambers, etc. which were previously subjected to proof testing and, which subsequently, have any proof sensitive components changed, altered, or substituted, should be re-proofed.

Method:

- Record headspace before proof testing (see previous pracedure "TLW0300D Measure Headspace.")
- After firing the proof round, the firearm will be carefully examined to determine if any damage to the
 product has occurred due to exposure to the proof pressure. This inspection includes:
- Visual inspection for damage,
 - damaged receiver bolt, especially the locking lugs on the bolt or the receiver
 - bulged chamber or bore, split, cracked or otherwise damaged barrel,
 - · broken stock,
 - any other part subjected to the proofing stress, which can be visually examined for damage.
 - Any "suspicious" areas should be submitted to magna-flux inspection before proceeding.
- The fired proof cartridge should be examined to determine that no firearm fault has introduced cartridge failure, such as
 - Expanded cartridge head
 - Excessive roughness, rings, or bulging, which would affect extraction.

J.R.Snedeker

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