

said, "I'd hate to think what that would cost."

The Heart of the Trans Pecos

Webb and Pitchford both are self-described accuracy nuts, and their different perspectives lead them to an unusual development process that eventually birthed the Trans Pecos.

Pitchford's expertise is making inaccurate guns shoot better. He has bled in rivers of fiberglass and removed mountains of wood shavings trying to make production-gun groups shrink to as near as MOA as he can get them. Accordingly, he's a big fan of pillar bedding and aluminum bedding blocks, when the project parameters allow. Webb, on the other hand, understands how gun parts must be designed for them to be produced in reasonable amounts of machine time. All the screws, springs, tenons, rails and other details must be married on time and inside budget to allow a gun to have a fighting chance at success in the market.

Their collaboration led to a series of decisions that now form the heart of the Trans Pecos line. Pitchford's insights on action rigidity, bolt-bearing surfaces, and center-on-center gun repair led Webb to construct a new bolt action that removes most of the inaccuracies of production guns from the get-go.

Webb explained that the gun was built to keep all the elements square and on center from the bore outward. This means that when the barrel is screwed into the action, the center of the bore aligns with the center of the action. Inside the action, the bolt then runs centered into the boreline, and the bolt face sits squarely on the chamber mouth. The more accurately these matings can be accomplished, the more accurately the gun will shoot. When this process is carried out after the fact, it is called blue-

Briley Trans Pecos .22-250 Single Shot

Price...\$2,995

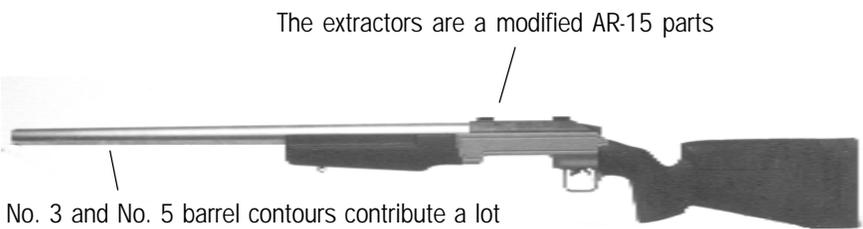


SPECIFICATIONS

Warranty: Limited Lifetime

BARREL FINISH	Blued or SS	TRIGGER MFG.	Jewell
Action Finish	Hardcoat	TRIGGER PULL	6 oz. to 3 lbs.
WEIGHT (EMPTY)	12.6 lbs.	BASES INCLUDED	Yes
OVERALL LENGTH	45.6 in.	STOCK MATERIAL	Composite
BARREL LENGTH	26 in.	LENGTH OF PULL	14.5 in.
Barrel Mfg. ...	Lothar Walther	DROP @ COMB	Adjustable
RIFLING TWIST	1-in-10	DROP @ HEEL	0.5 in.
MAGAZINE CAPACITY	None	DROP @ TOE	5.5 in.

Our Recommendation: Off the shelf, this gun can win many benchrest matches. As such, its price isn't out of line with customized benchrest competition guns. It goes without saying that the Single Shot would be deadly on varmints.



The extractors are a modified AR-15 parts

No. 3 and No. 5 barrel contours contribute a lot of weight to the Repeater. Bull barrels on the Single Shot are intended for varminting or bench use

The composite stock has an adjustable cheekpiece and buttplate

The aluminum frame helps keep the action, bolt, and barrel center-on-center. The wood forend stock attaches to the front of the frame via a tenon.



printing, or truing, the action.

However, truing the action on an existing product isn't easy, which is why the process takes so long and costs so much in a custom-gunsmithing setting. Every facet of the action upgrade must be held as close to tolerance as possible, because tolerance stacking—accrued variations—

can lead to quite a bit of slop. Slop leads to variation in bullet positioning, bullet depth in the chamber, and other critical tolerances, which in high-bone-connected-to-the-hip-bone fashion causes changes in barrel vibration, variation in pressures, uneven heating, and other accuracy-destroying problems.