

# Dawson Tool-Less Guide-Rod Problem's Updated

On Brian Enos Forum 2005: Dawson was making Tool-Less Guide-Rods

Purchase History:

Invoice # 013512 2014-05-21 and #014408 2014-05-30 first Tool-Less Guide-Rod  
Invoice # 013512 was made by talking with Michael about a replacement guide rod for my Grand Master 38 Super.

Invoice # 021992 2014-08-27 second Tool-Less Guide-Rod

Problems#1:

When trying to insert the DP Tool-Less Guide-Rod into my #910 Grand Master, we noticed the end of the plug raised rim, prevented the compensator from fitting correctly. See Photo1a where the raised rim was removed.

**Problems#2:**

When trying to insert the DP Tool-Less Guide-Rod into my #877 Grand Master, Both tool less guide rods will not fit under the slide front housing. See Photo4c.

Question?

**What course of action do you recommend to enable the tool less guide rod to correctly fit into my GM#877? See last slide for final solution!!!!!!**

# My Objective and Experiences to Date with TWO STI GM's

My objective was to have two guns that were the same so I could have a backup.

Later, I wanted to experiment with different springs and guide rods.

Given the recoil master, DP tool-less guide rod, and the simple guide rod that requires a paper clip to remove the guide rod.

I called Dawson Precision and asked Michael what he suggested and he said, "Well you have that expensive gun, why not the expensive guide rod?" Not knowing any better, I went along with the question and also purchased the less expensive paper clip version as well. Then I went about purchasing some springs with different weights.

After purchasing the Dillon spring tester, I ran into **my first difference**. GM#877 came with recoil master and an 10.7 lb spring and GM#910 came with an 8.5 lb spring.

## My Objective and Experiences to Date with TWO STI GM's Cont.

When I inserted my first DP Tool-less Guide-rod into GM#910, we found the **Rim** on the cap did not allow the compensator to fully seat. We had to reduce The rim on the cap or plug whatever the correct name is. See Photos herein.

A few weeks later, I purchased a second DP Tool-less Guide-rod into GM#877, Again so I would be able to have two guns with one as a backup. Realizing we would have to modify the rim on the new DP Tool-less Guide-rod. Well, the pictures in the set of slides show the **new problem** where neither DP Tool-less Guide-rod would fit in GM #877.

Since I would like to have the DP Tool-less Guide-rods as an option, I am not sure how to proceed.

So, **I am asking both Dawson and STI for their advice.** As noted, Dawson has offered a complete refund or a modified replacement, but that does not correct the second problem of the guns not being the same dimensions.

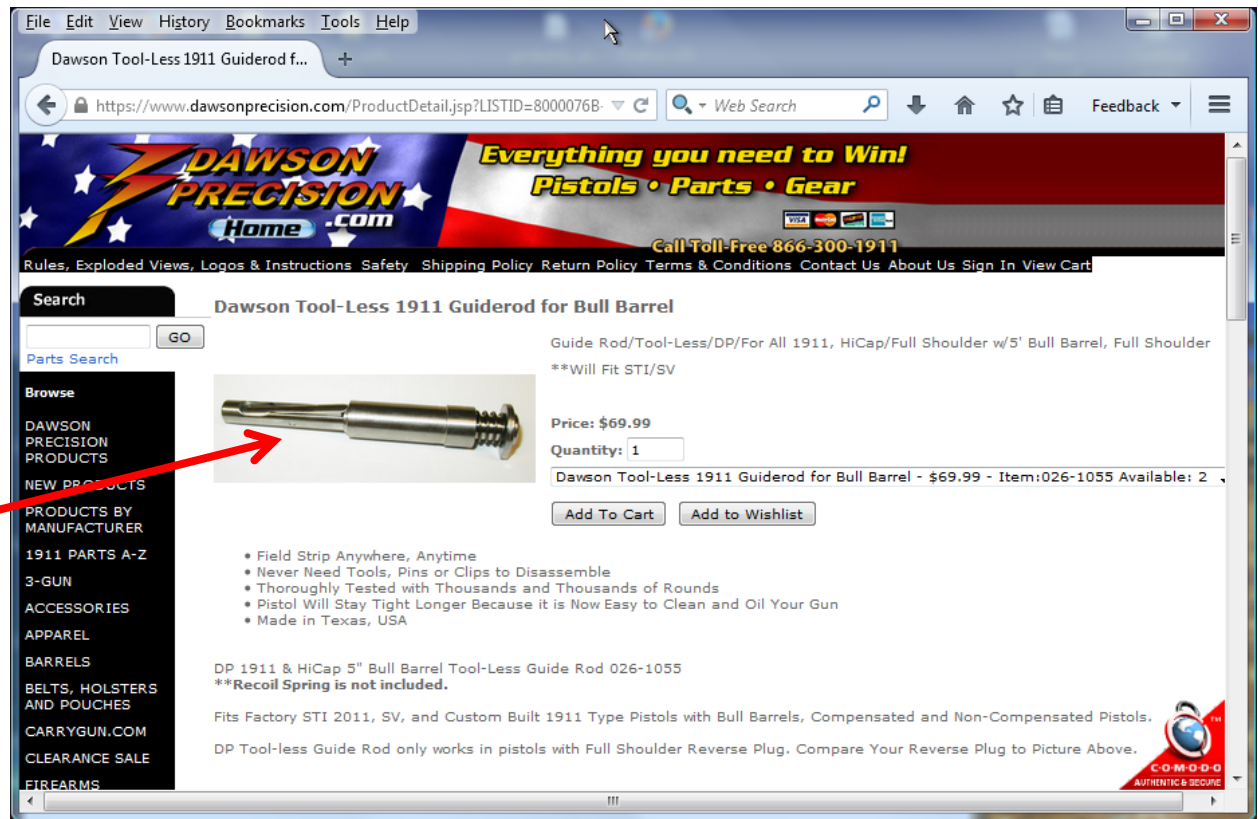
Note, both STI GM's were purchased from Dawson last year.

The slides following are intended to document these problems.

1- Rim on plug – has been addressed by Dawson

2- STI GM#877 different size slide tunnel ( or whatever the name is) that prevents both of the DP Tool-Less Guide Rods from fitting.

# WebPage Info.



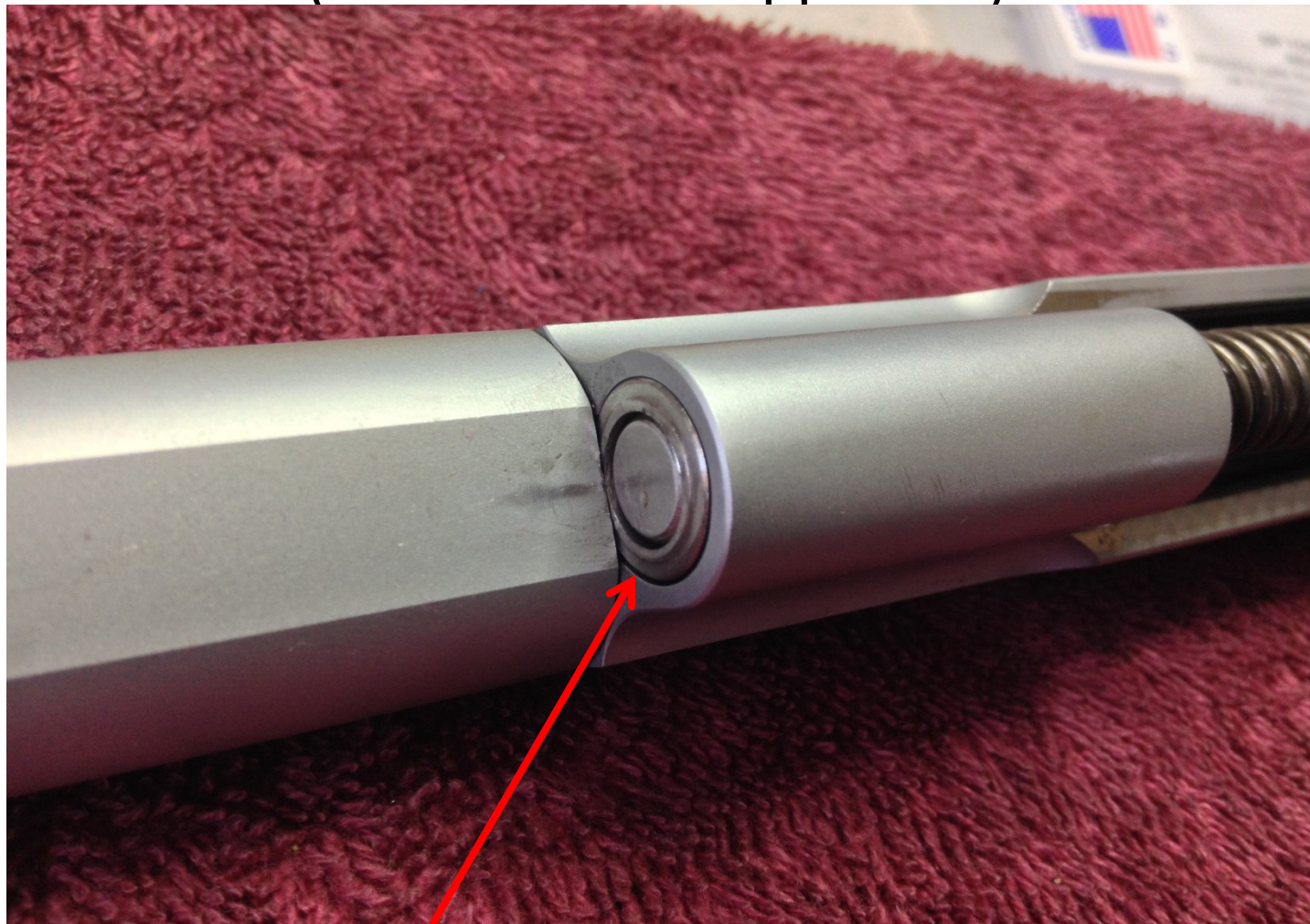
DP 1911 & HiCap 5" Bull Barrel Tool-Less Guide Rod 026-1055

**\*\*Recoil Spring is not included.**

Fits Factory STI 2011, SV, and Custom Built 1911 Type Pistols with Bull Barrels,  
**Compensated** and Non-Compensated Pistols.

DP Tool-less Guide Rod only works in pistols with Full Shoulder Reverse Plug. Compare  
Your Reverse Plug to Picture Above.

## Photo1a (our corrective approach)

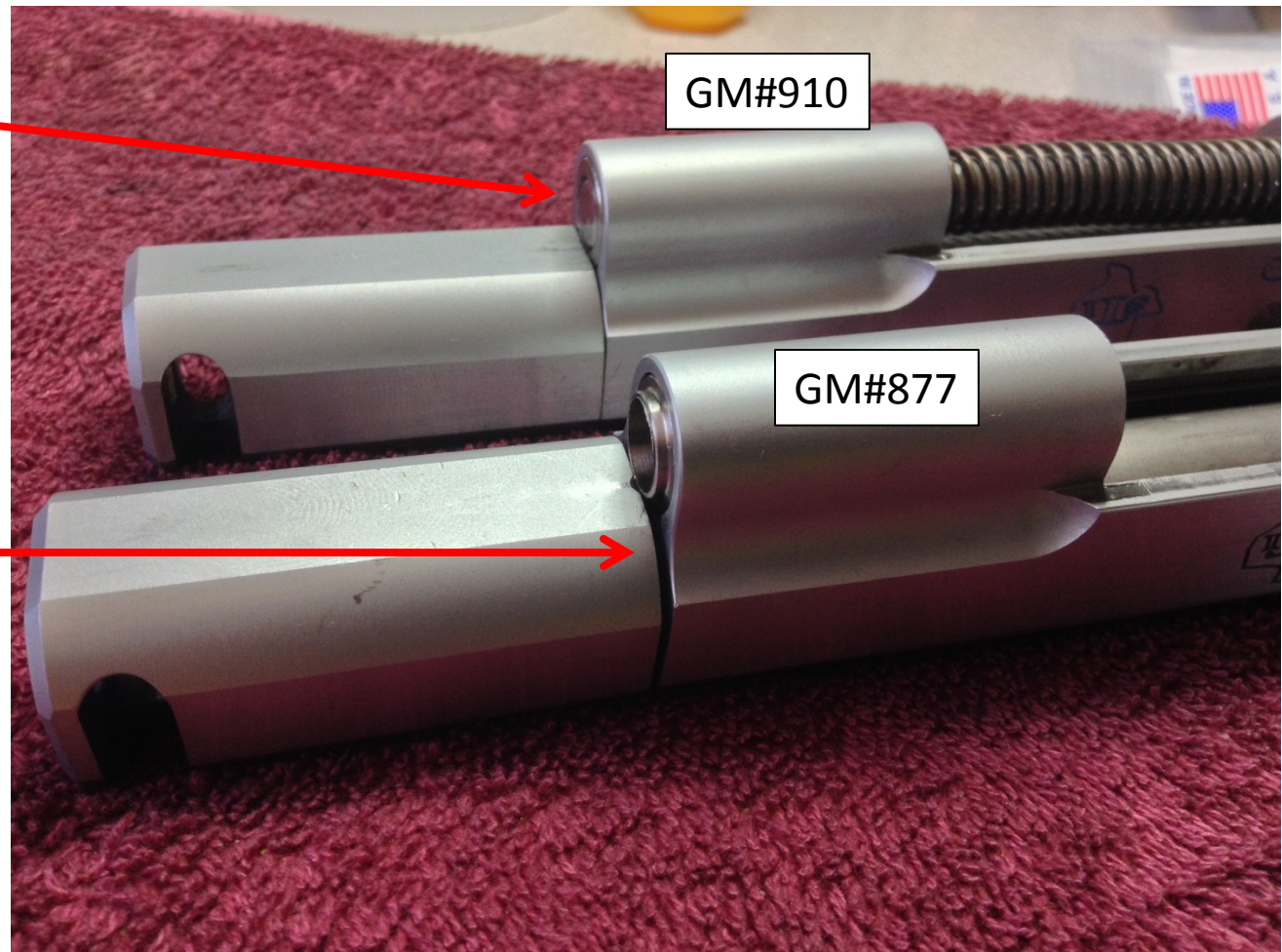


Rim removed to  
Fit behind compensator in GM #910

# Photo2a ( The two GM are not the same.)

Rim removed to  
Fit behind compensator  
In GM# (910)

Rim of plug prevents  
Compensator going  
Back into gun  
In GM#(877)



# Photo3a ( the GM recoil hoods are different)

My second DP Tool-Less Guide-Rod would fit into GM# (910) but the rim Causes problems as noted.

My first DP Tool-Less Guide-Rod would **not** fit into GM# (877)

My second DP Tool-Less Guide-Rod would **not** fit into GM# (877)





## Photo4c ( Where the hoods are difference & touches)

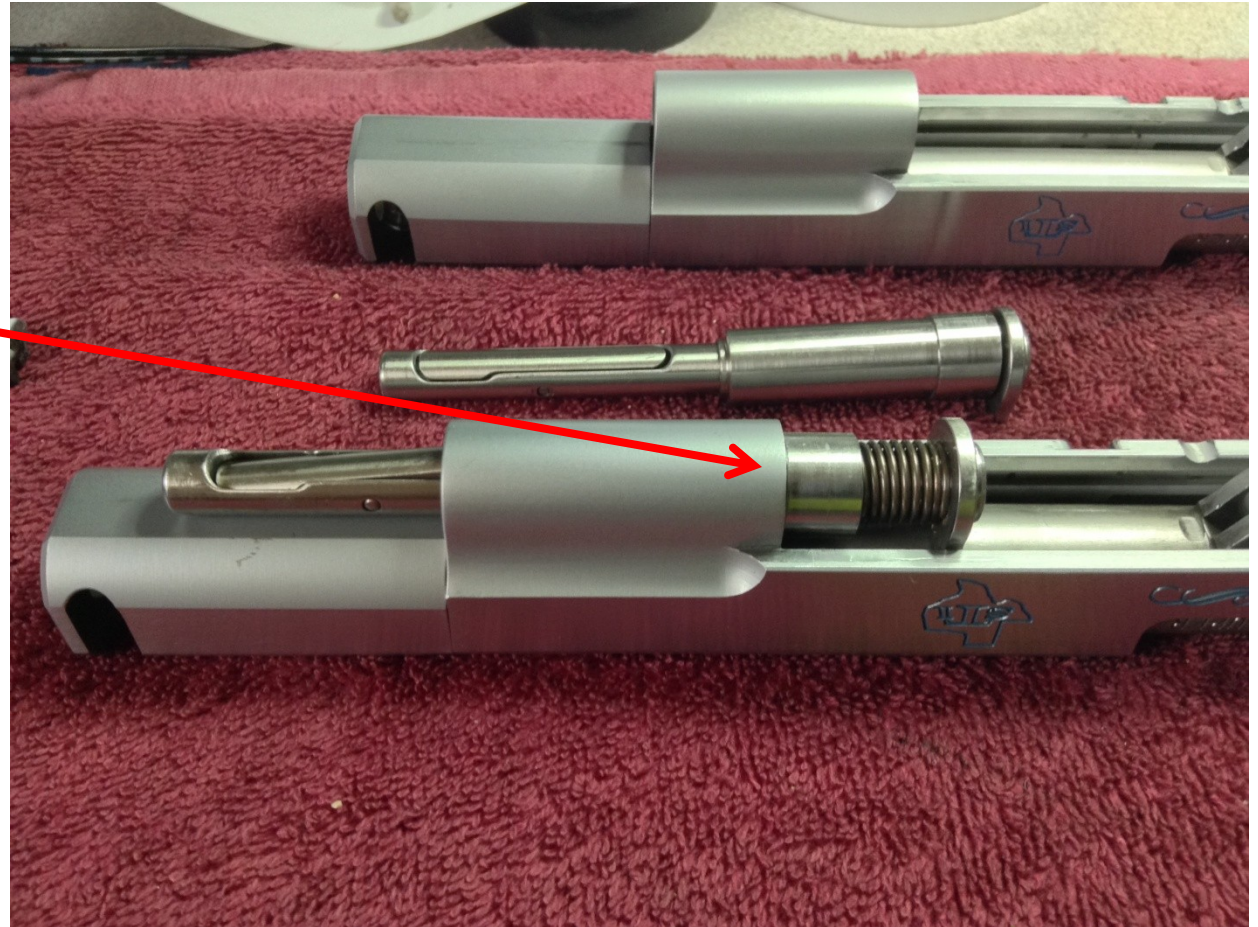
My first DP Tool-Less Guide-Rod would fit into GM# (910) after Removing the front rim.



My second DP Tool-Less Guide-Rod would **not** fit into GM# (877). It would stick at this position.

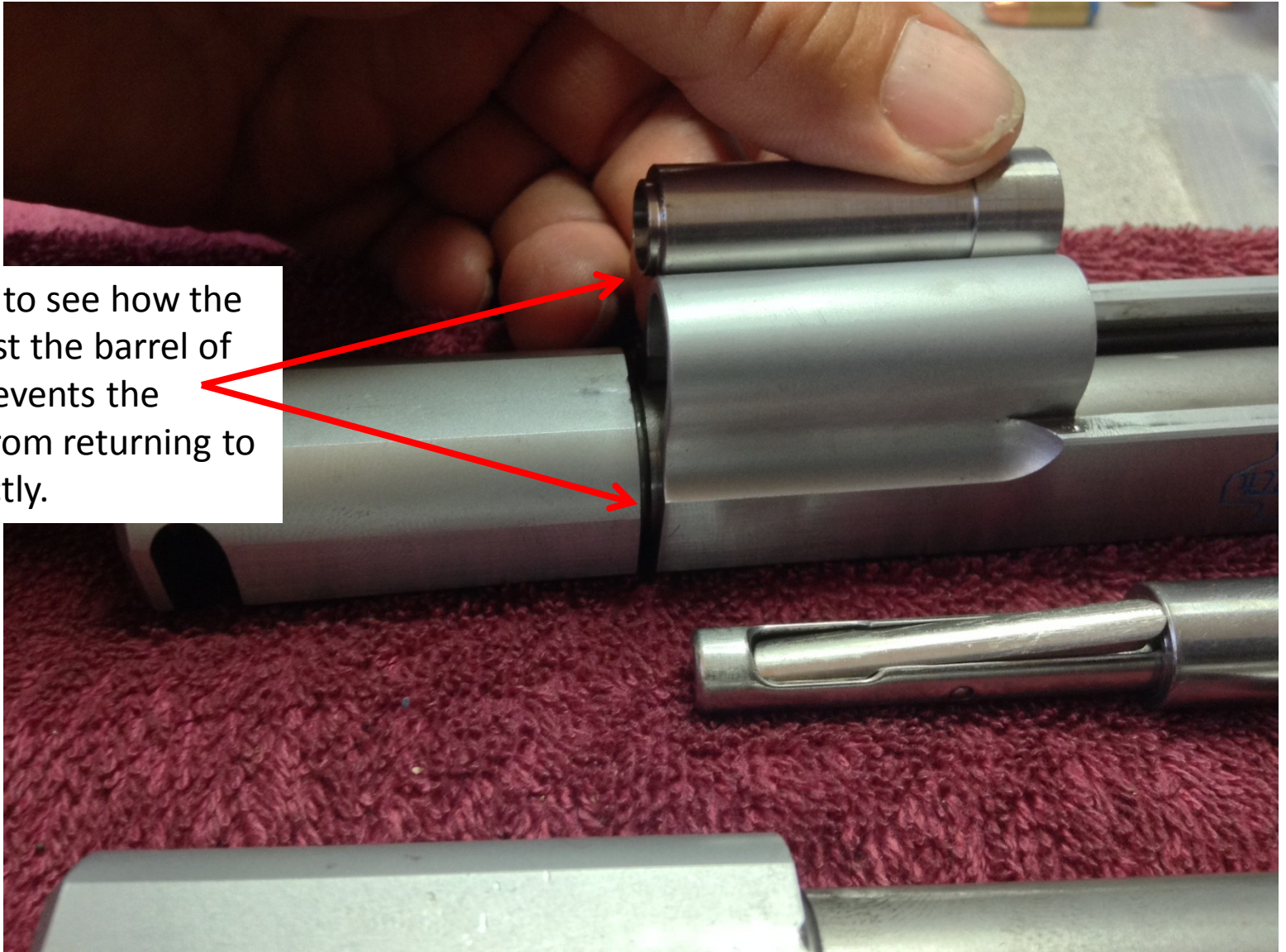
# Photo4d ( Where the hoods are difference & touches)

My first DP Tool-Less Guide-Rod would **not** fit into GM# (877) It would also stick at this position.



In summary, the two STI Grand Masters I purchased from Dawson Precisions are not as identical as one would think.

# Photo3b



An extra photo to see how the rim extends past the barrel of the gun and prevents the compensator from returning to the slide correctly.

# Email from Dawson

Date: Wed, 03 Sep 2014 17:29:52 -0500  
From: Dawson Sales <sales@dawsonprecision.com>  
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1; WOW64; rv:24.0) Gecko/20100101 Thunderbird/24.6.0  
To: chuck <chuck@allthehowards.com>  
Subject: Re: Tool-Less Problem

Chuck,

I had Mr Dawson look over your e-mail. The tool-less guide rods are not specifically designed to work with the GM. They can be modified to do so. Mr Dawson apologize that the description on our website didn't specify that it would need modifying to work on a open pistol. We can offer a refund if you like to send them back or Dave said he will be willing to design a shorter reverse plug so it will fix the issue for you. please let us know how you would like to proceed, thanks.

We want to help and we don't want to confuse you with anyone else always include original message text with all replies.

Sales Team  
Michael  
Dawson Precision  
866-300-1911

# Email from &Telecon with Dawson Tech Rep.

Date: Mon, 08 Sep 2014 13:51:46 -0500  
From: Dawson Precision Tech Support <tech@dawsonprecision.com>  
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1; WOW64; rv:11.0) Gecko/20120327 Thunderbird/11.0.1  
To: chuck <chuck@allthehowards.com>  
Subject: Re: Problem with my STI GM

Hello,

We can make you a reverse plug that will work with your GM or we can refund your money. What would you like us to do?

We want to help and don't want to confuse you with any one else, so please include original message text with all replies.

Huston

Tech Support  
Dawson Precision  
866-300-1911

===== My call with Dawson =====

Date: Monday, 08 Sep 2014  
With Dawson Tech Support

After calling Houston, I learned Dawson was aware of the DP Tool-less guide-rod problem with the GM. Their position is STI does not watch the tolerance in the tunnel portion of the slide. This was a known problem with STI's. They offered to make me two new DP Tool-less guide-rod and would send them to me.

# Dawson Solution

**After weeks of working on this problem created by the DP Tool-less Guide-Rod,**

Dawson tech support stated, we have a reverse plug that should have been sent to you for an STI with a compensator.

They sent me two replacement reverse plugs that are shorter to allow the lever to fit into the rim of the reverse plug inside the tunnel and behind the compensator.

What was disturbing was Dawson know about the problem and failed to send me the correct plug on two separate occasions.

No additional compensation for all my wasted time was offered.