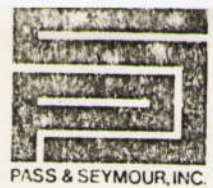


..... what's going on at

100813



August 23, 1974

TO: P&S Field Sales Organization

SUBJECT: Receptacles for Aluminum wire.

Ever since the introduction of CO/ALR receptacles and switches we have been asked when P&S will come out with CO/ALR devices. This is to assure you that we are not ignoring your question, and to bring you up-to-date with the P&S philosophy regarding aluminum terminations.

We have designed a device that will meet UL requirements for CO/ALR listing, and could have it in production within a couple of months. However, the ever increasing controversy concerning the whole subject of aluminum wiring leads us to believe that this is not the time to market CO/ALR devices. Many of you have read the articles in the press about the Consumer Product Safety Commission's concern over aluminum wiring, and their investigation of numerous fires associated with it. NBC News recently reported on and showed pictures of aluminum-wired receptacles on fire. Some politicians and consumer advocates in Washington are calling for a ban on aluminum wire.

In testimony at a recent hearing before the Consumer Product Safety Commission the Wiring Device Section of NEMA made the following statement:

"...CO/ALR devices in comparison to other devices perform outstandingly well with aluminum conductors. However, the industry cannot predict product life with sufficient accuracy to be sure this solution is adequate."

Therefore, until we are convinced that CO/ALR devices do indeed solve aluminum termination problems, and until such time as the CPSC renders a solid decision on the subject, P&S feels that it is the best interests of all of us to withhold release of our CO/ALR devices. In the meantime we will continue to label our standard receptacles as suitable for copper and copper-clad only.

Bill