



cc: E. S. Reed  
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E. E. Barth

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Firewall III Control Cable

We are continuing to experience problems in getting our Firewall III program off the ground. There are several questions that still remain to be resolved prior to our giving the field sales force a clear definition of what we are going to do. Following is a list of these major areas, and your assistance in expediting solutions is urgently requested.

1. Traceability - Our current procedure for furnishing traceability in accordance with Title 10 of AEC regulations is not satisfactory. Specifically, we must initiate a procedure which will provide identification of materials and in-process testing. Our current practice barely provides final test documentation and procedural testing of materials.
2. All single conductor cables currently going into our Firewall III stock must have AC, DC, IR and conductor resistance measurements made in accordance with test voltages and guaranteed values per IPCEA. This is 100% testing.

We are sympathetic with the idea of using an impulse test in lieu of tank testing, but this will require selling this alternate to the utilities and consulting engineers. To do this selling job, we suggest you immediately proceed with a monitoring program whereby approximately 20% of our single conductor production is impulse-tested prior to being tank tested. Accurate records should be kept on the failures experienced in the tanks on conductors that have been tested by the impulse method as compared to those which were not. Water immersion is to be a minimum of six hours.

3. We are under continuing pressure to change the binder tape on these cables and provide one that meets the following criteria:
  - A. No asbestos
  - B. Flame resistant (ashtray test)
  - C. Non-hydroscopic

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E. E. Barth

Page 2

January 24, 1973

Until these questions are resolved, the vast majority of the cable now being produced will be of no value to us in filling orders for nuclear power plants. This cable shall have to be marketed for use in fossil stations or commercial applications.

Your early advice is requested.

J. R. P. / lks

Frank R. Postma

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