



March 31, 1994

Document Control Desk United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: Notification of Possible Product Anomaly

Namco Controls EA740 and EA750 Series Limit Switches

Gentlemen:

The purpose of this letter is to follow up on the letter sent to you on March 17, 1994 on the above subject.

This matter was brought to our attention by Commonwealth Edison via Namco Control's Return Goods Authorization Numbers RGA 013971NC and RGA 013991NC. The customer reported that the operating levers on EA740-86700 Limit Switches would not always return to their initial position. Namco has been able to verify this condition in only one of the returned units. Namco has determined the root cause. At this time, based on our review, we believe this situation to be isolated.

Although we believe that we have determined the root cause for the problem initially reported to Namco by the customer and that the problem is isolated, our analysis lead us to another issue concerning the actual O-ring material supplied to Namco by our vendor.

All O-rings used in Nuclear Qualified Limit Switches, for the purpose of this shaft seal, have been specified to be manufactured by Parker Hannifin Corporation, using their E740 material, which is in the EP/EPDM family of material, since approximately 1977. As part of this review, we asked Parker Hannifin to analyze O-ring material from four batches of material that were supplied to Namco with the required certifications from Parker Hannifin and purchased from various Parker Hannifin distributors.

On March 14, 1994 Parker Hannifin advised us that two of the four batches of material were not from Parker Hannifin and that the other two batches were not clearly identifiable as manufactured by Parker Hannifin. On March 23, 1994, Parker Hannifin informed us that they had performed additional analysis on the material and determined that three of the batches were of Parker Hannifin manufacture and that the fourth batch could not be confirmed to be of Parker Hannifin manufacture. To the best of our knowledge, all Parker Hannifin analysis was based on identifying the presence of a trace element that they place in the compound used to identify the compound as manufactured by Parker Hannifin.

Namco also contracted two independent laboratories to analyze the material in question. One lab, ATS, has been testing samples of material received at Namco since 1990 and verified that they had found no differences in any material tested and a sample of control compound supplied by Parker Hannifin. A second lab, Akron Rubber Development Laboratory, was contracted to analyze the same samples sent to Parker Hannifin, the control sample, and various samples which had been through the Qualification process at Namco. They concluded that all samples were of Ethylene-propylene rubber and that similar performance would be expected among the tested o-ring samples.

Based on these test results, Namco has released the hold on shipments.

We continue to work with Parker Hannifin to resolve the issue of the their inability to find their trace element in one batch of material. We will advise you by April 15, 1994, of our resolution of this situation.

Very truly yours,

Jon Slaybaugh

President

CC

H. Everson - VP Engineering

B. Pettrey - Q A Manager/Newton N.C.

E. Roob - Manager Qualified Products Marketing

Nuc-C file (Engineering) Nuc-M file (Engineering)