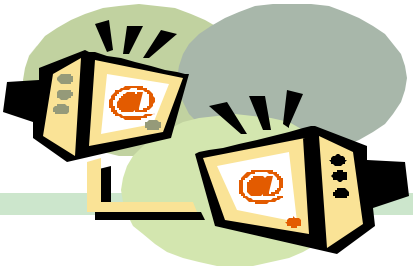
Volume 17, Issue 1

April 29th, 2005

ShawFlex

The Circuit

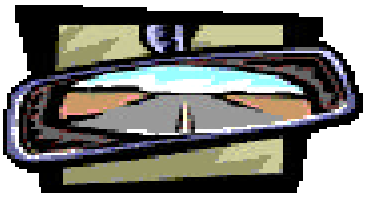


Special points of interest:

- Looking Back– An Electrical History in Canada
- Lead-times make sure to check them!!
- Raw material warnings

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Looking Back, An Electrical History



When Edison turned his incandescent lamp on for the first time in 1882, it was the beginning of a revolution that literally changed the landscape the world over. Within a few years, coal and steam generating stations were in service across Canada.

The Electrical Utility industry in Canada had its humble beginnings with a few groups of investors. As the demand for electricity increased due to industrialization and urbanization, the utilities gradually became centered in their respective areas. Names such as Hydro Quebec and Ontario Hydro emerged. Today they are among the largest producers of electricity in Canada.

Here are some of the highlights of the electrical industry in Canada over the past 100 or so years:

1880-1900

The electric motor encourages development of electricity for industrial applications and for public transportation.

T. Eaton Co. receives Toronto's first generator.

In 1883, Hamilton uses incandescent street lamps.

Canada's first electrical utility, Pembroke Electric Lighting Company, is formed in 1884.

Victoria has the first electric streetcars operating in 1890.

The Ottawa Exhibition has the first demonstration of a device for cooking food with electricity in 1892. The first long distance high tension transmission line (11 kV) is put into service from St-Narcisse to Trois-Rivières (27 km).

1900-1920

Electricity trade from Canada to the USA begins in 1901 from Niagara Falls.

In 1902, a labour dispute at a Pennsylvania coal mine halts shipments to Ontario and it's the impetus to start Ontario Hydro.

(see page 3)

In 1891, the Canadian Electrical Association is started.

The first Canadian National Electrical Code is published in 1897.

Current Lead-Times

As you may have noticed over the past few weeks, lead-times have gone out a bit for all products. As you know ShawFlex prides ourselves on ensuring we meet the deliveries that we quote at time of order. As conditions can change from time of quote to time of order, please ensure you check during order placement to ensure your customer is not caught off guard.

Along with a bit more volume in the plant, comes with the fact that raw materials on some items are getting longer lead-times to us from our suppliers. Thermocouple definitely falls under this heading. JX and KX thermocouples should not be effected too much but other types, EX, TX, etc need to be checked.

Always check lead-times at time of order

MENSA BRAIN TEASER VOLUME #16

Which of the following completes the series of numbers listed in Volume 16?

Answer: "A" the number 15

Correct answers were received from Patricia Decarie, Guy Lemoine, Philippe Lamoureux and Ron Sutherland, all Anixter Montreal; Brian Arsenault, Anixter Dartmouth, Bill Lahey, Anixter St. John's, Derek Kilian, Nedco Montreal;Rob Turza, Greg Menzies, Noramco Burnaby; James Critoph, Anixter Vancouver,Lorraine Halachuk, Anixter Winnipeg; Andrew Emery Noramco Hamilton, Derek McNair Anixter London and Jeremy Evans Anixter Toronto.

NEW CHALLENGE

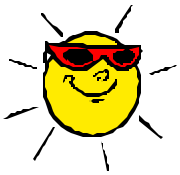
NEW CHALLENGE

What town had the worst mining disaster in Canada?

News From Across the Country

Western Droppings

Okotoks, Alberta will be the first North American community to host a residential community-scale solar heating demonstration project. This location was chosen because it receives almost as much solar energy in a year as Italy or Greece!



This power will be used to heat 52 homes, reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 250 tones per year. ATCO gas is both managing the construction of the project and will operate and maintain it later.

Central Crumbs

The Ontario government has approved 18 private applications for water power development. The new water projects have the potential for producing up to 300 megawatts of hydro energy.

Two sites which have been selected are in Southern Ontario's cottage country the north Bala dam west of Graven Hurst and the Wasdel Falls Dam north of Orillia. The other 16 sites are on lakes and rivers in northwestern and northeastern Ontario.

These 18 projects are all relatively small therefore not having the hydro potential as the Mega projects in Manitoba and Quebec.

Eastern Tidbits

The current flurry of activity in the hydro electric generation industry was increased with the announcement of the mother of all hydro projects, Gull Island (2000Mw) and Muskrat River (824Mw). The $9 billion project is scheduled to be up and running by 2009. The Ontario Electrical Financial Corp. and Hydro Quebec have teamed up to submit a proposal to Newfoundland for the development of this region. SNC-Lavalin would handle the engineering and construction of both facilities.

To keep things interesting, a U.S. based company and a Chinese consortium are also interested in the project.

Looking Back, An Electrical History of Canada

The world's longest transmission line is built from the Shawinigan Electric Company to Montreal so that 50Kv can be transmitted over a distance of 136km.

Calgary Power is formed in 1909.

In 1912, the first electric steel mill is built for the Steel Company of Canada.

Also in 1912, the first reversible mine hoist is put into service.

1920-1939

In 1920, hydro electric generation accounts for 97% of electricity in Canada.

The first electric range, conceptualized 29 years earlier and a Canadian invention, is produced in 1921.

In 1921, Ontario Hydro opens the world's largest power station, Sir Adam Beck.

By the 1920's, the use of electric stoves, refrigerators and washing machines becomes widespread.

The Canadian Electrical Code is adopted by the Canadian Standards Association in 1927.

In 1928, the first 220Kv transmission line is put into service from Paugan Falls, Quebec to Toronto (440km).

Edmonton Power installs the world's first 10MW turbo-generator at its Rossdale plant in 1928.

Although these were the first steps of a fledgling industry, Canada led the way in developing new and better ways of producing, transmitting and distributing electricity.

In the next Circuit, we'll cover the years 1940 to 1980.