

J. P. Fivay

R. J. ... 1041-011

TYPE B-54 CONTROLLERS

RWY. ENGR. DEPT.
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Erie Works, May 10, 1927

Mr. W.A. Fallon,
I.C.C. Company,
Schenectady, N.Y.

You sent us with your letter of February 23rd a copy of a sketch made by the Italian Company on a change they had incorporated on the B-54 controller. We have looked this over, and decided that it is a good thing to do, and we have, consequently, made a B-54-B controller which will incorporate this feature of having the present top casting on the main cylinder made up in two parts instead of one, which gives additional breakers on the R-6 finger, and cuts down burning of same. We, however, did not do this in exactly the same manner as the Italian Company did, as they interchanged the No. 12 and 20 fingers at the top of the controller. This, we think, would be serious to do for standard production, due to the fact that the cylinders of the new and old controllers would not be interchangeable electrically, although they are mechanically. We had one experience of this on the K-35 controller, and with the trouble it caused our customers, we decided never to do it again. We have, however, accomplished the same thing, and kept the interchangeability of the cylinders as a whole.

We have also made a further change on the second body casting from the top. On this, we have cut down a section of the R-5 segment during a transition step from 4 to 5, and added another segment which closes to the R-4 finger at this point. The effect of this is to have a greater amount of resistance during the transition, when one motor is in the circuit. This resistance is again cut out on the first parallel step so that it makes no difference in the accelerating points of the controller, but cuts down the current in one motor during transition, and will also tend to reduce the burning on the R-6 finger at this point.

We are incorporating this change on the order which we are making for 40 controllers for Brisbane Tramways, as this

Mr. W.A. Fallon

May 10, 1927

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company had trouble with these controllers in the past, and we hope that this change will very materially improve the operation of the controllers and satisfy this customer that these B-54 controllers are a really good device.

C.J. AXTELL,

CONTROL DIVISION
RWY. EQUIP. ENGR. DEPT.

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