NEW K-700 HORN

In sufficient quantities die-casting can have some advantages over sand casting, such as dimensional uniformity, easier threading, lighter weight, and depending on quantity, from $1 to $3 per unit saving in cost. This would postpone a price increase.

After much asking of questions, we decided to take the plunge. The die weighs 4,000 lbs. and will cost between 23 and 30 kilobucks. We sure would like to “be right the first time”, and if we have made a mistake, we will have to do a lot of blame fixing, alibiing, and financial salvaging.

Our first samples have come in and the first things we saw were some interior shapes that are not “exactly” like our drawings. But the “errors” result in response curves that are at least one dB smoother than those of the old horns. The mounting ears are an unimpressive $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick, but when we “drop tested” a HERESY box with the new horn and driver installed, the box broke, but the horn remained intact.

After “brainstorming”, we decided to show the green light to the die-casting company. We know we are right “so far” and just hope that any bugs that appear in the future can be stepped on. We know that other companies are successful in using die-cast horns.

The old K-700 has, about once in 10,000 units, failed mechanically. It would be too much to expect the new horns to have a lesser failure rate. One type of failure in the past has been damage to the front board which necessitated replacing the whole box: presumably if the new horn breaks, the exterior of the box will fail too, and if the box doesn’t fail and the horn does, horn replacement will be easy. If these failures occur at the past rate of one or two every 10,000 units, I think our customers will be content, and we will be happy.

Finally, dealers and customers, please report any failures.

PAUL W. KLIPSCH