



Canadian Standards Association
Mississauga, Ontario
To the Part I Committee

Subject No. 3077

Chair: R. Leduc

Date: November 25, 2002

Title: Kitchen Counter Receptacles, Rule 26-712(d)

Submitted by: Louis Itiniant of 293 Armadale Ave., Toronto, Ontario, M6S 3X5 on March 22, 2002

Proposal: Amend Rule 26-712(d) to include 'each kitchen counter receptacle to have its own 15/15 amp circuit breaker, no split receptacles.

Reasons for Request: With split receptacles only two 1200 to 1500 watt appliances can be used at any one time. If the same receptacles were not split then four heavy duty appliances could be used simultaneously. (Toaster, microwave kettle, coffee maker). Where is the last minute ironing done while waiting for breakfast?

Supporting Information: The current distribution panels manufactured have the capability of more than one circuit breaker per position, i.e two circuits in two positions, two circuits in one position or three circuits in two positions. Adding new circuits should not present any problem at the distribution panel.

To put in an additional circuit and circuit breaker, by the builder as an add-on, will cost the buyer about \$ 150.00. Adding this cost to the price of the house should not present a problem as it will be buried into the selling price of the house.

Every house owner would be ecstatic knowing their house is truly electrically safe. **Safety first, always.**

Chair's Comments: The submitter wants to eliminate split receptacles and suggests that we should be able to plug in 4 appliances at one time. Most kitchen configurations would have at least 2 receptacles in accordance with 26-712(d) and therefore 4 circuits. Kitchens with limited counter space may only have a single receptacle (2 circuits) but it is questionable as to whether the limited counter space would accommodate 4 appliances in any case.

Subcommittee deliberations (1st Round):

8 of 13 members responded, all disagreeing with the submission.

The main reason was that the proposal lacked convincing evidence to suggest existing practices presented a safety problem. Adding receptacles on separate circuits in addition to existing requirements is always an option for the owner and considered a design issue.

Subcommittee Recommendation:

Reject the proposal and close the subject.