



Canadian Standards Association
Mississauga, Ontario
To the Part I Committee

Subject No. 3170

Chair: G. Lobay

Date: August 23, 2004

Title: Revise Definition of "Service Box"

Submitted by: C. Thwaites of FERRAZ SHAWMUT Canada Inc., 88 Horner Ave, Toronto, Ontario, M8Z 5Y3, Tel: (416) 253-8501, Fax: (416) 253-8511 on March 29, 2004.

Proposal:

Definition "Service Box" revise to read "means an approved assembly consisting of a metal or polymeric box or cabinet constructed so that it may be effectually locked or sealed, containing either service fuses and a service switch or a circuit breaker, and of such design that either the switch or circuit breaker may be manually operated when the box is closed."

Reasons for Request:

CEC Part 1 - 6.204 uses the term "Service Box". Clause 6.204 comes under the heading "Control and Protective Equipment." Polymeric materials are permitted in CSA22.2 No. 14-M95 "Industrial Control Equipment" Polymeric materials are also permitted in the new tri-national standard CSA C22.2 No. 4-04 "Enclosed and Dead Front Switches."

Chair's Comments: The submitter has added the words "or polymeric" to the Section 0 definition of Service Box which remains otherwise unchanged. The definition would read as follows:

Service Box means an approved assembly consisting of a metal or polymeric box or cabinet constructed so that it may be effectually locked or sealed, containing either service fuses and a service switch or a circuit breaker, and of such design that either the switch or circuit breaker may be manually operated when the box is closed.

Subcommittee Deliberations:

No one disagreed, although there was some discussion about refining the definition further. These were:

- The proposal is still too prescriptive, other materials may come along later that might be OK as well;
- Definition uses the term "Approved" which is not necessary since all electrical equipment has to be approved (see C12.13);
- However, another member said we should keep "Approved" since this was specific use equipment, not general approval;

- The word “service” in “service fuses” and “service switch” is redundant;
- C22.2 No. 14 requires locking means but the Section 0 definition the way it is written implies optional locking means;
- delete the words "a metal or polymeric box or cabinet" and replace them with "an enclosure".

Chair’s Comments

Since there is solid support for not specifying construction materials (leaving it to Part II to determine) the final recommendation will reflect this idea.

Actually, C12.13 allows Section 0 to use the word “approved” as an exception to the rule. No one else complained about the use of “Approved” and C12.13 allows it so the Chair feels it is OK to leave the term in place.

The Chair agrees the use of “service” is redundant. The recommendation below includes removal of the useless terms. This message brought to you by the department of redundancy department.

There is a related Subject, 3171, which is a request for interpretation relating to this definition, so we won’t be finished dealing with service box for some time, although not under this Subject. Part of that request has to do with whether the locking means is required or optional, so that issue will be dealt with there along with the other ambiguities.

Subcommittee Recommendation:

Revise the Section 0 definition of **service box** to read as follows:

Service Box means an approved assembly consisting of ~~a metal box or cabinet~~ an enclosure constructed so that it may be effectually locked or sealed, containing either ~~service~~ fuses and a ~~service~~ switch or a circuit breaker, and of such design that either the switch or circuit breaker may be manually operated when the box is closed.