

Writing Specifications for the Blue Streak Comet

This unit supplements the general discussion of the technical requirements to be met in preparing a machine order under the title "Writing Machine Specifications."

THE INTRODUCTION of the high speed Blue Streak Comet Linotype has brought about new conditions which must be considered in the preparation of Contracts and Specifications on machine orders. There are a few simple basic rules to be observed in order that the Executive Office can process and the factory produce the equipment for shipment in accordance with specifications.

Contract. If the Comet is to be used for Teletypesetter operation and is to be equipped with Electric Metal Pot and Teletypesetter Adapter Keyboard, it is to be described as follows in the Contract: "*Comet 2/90 Linotype equipped with Electric Metal Pot and Teletypesetter Adapter Keyboard.*" This description is required, as the equipment is priced as a unit as per S.D.B. price list. Do not itemize or price the equipment separately.

Specifications. In preparing Comet Machine specifications follow procedure as set up under Linotype Sales Manual Section "Writing Machine Specifications," but note these additional requirements for the Comet machine. Until the revised machine specifications are printed and distributed, the necessary information must be placed on the specification, using the available spaces plus the remarks sections.

Do not fail to properly describe the machine if it is a Comet with Electric Metal Pot and Teletypesetter Adapter Keyboard. This is described in full, on one line, and a single price prevails as per S.D.B., page A-2.

Describe and price the **Self-Quadder** so there is no doubt as to the style of Quadder to be furnished.

State if **Alternate Casting Mechanism** is wanted—remember it is optional and will be furnished at no extra cost on a Comet. This information is to be noted in the remarks section until new specifications are provided and will be indicated under items included in price of

machine in the upper left-hand corner of the specification under "Model." The same item "Alternate Casting" is also listed under extra equipment, this will apply on models other than the Comet.

The "**Double ee**" Attachment is a "must" on Comets and we strongly recommend that it be specified on all Comets for Teletypesetter operation.

No-Cast Safety is a new device for use in conjunction with the Teletypesetter operations of the Comet Linotypes.

If a line is too short and does not cast, this device prevents the second elevator from descending fully, thus stopping the machine by action of the automatic safety pawl.

The machine stopped in this position is an indication to the monitor, that the line in the first elevator which was prevented from transferring, was too short and did not cast. This permits the correction to be made immediately.

Electrical Safeties should also be ordered for every Comet for Teletypesetter operation. The purpose of the Electrical Safeties is to:—

1. Stop Teletypesetter if Distributor stops
2. Stop Teletypesetter when assembler is stopped
3. Prevent Assembling Elevator from rising if line is too tight
4. Insure last matrix being in front of pawls as Assembling Elevator rises.

The **Electric Quadder** for Teletypesetter operation includes the Electrical Safeties.

Mechanical Last Mat Kicker. (Assembler Slide Brake Push Rod Arm Bracket Attachment.) A mechanical assembler slide brake release device, commonly

called a "last mat kicker" is available for use on Comets using the standard Teletypesetter operating unit without the Teletypesetter safeties.

The device insures the last matrix in the assembled line, being forced behind the assembling elevator pawls before the assembling elevator rises.

The mechanical last mat kicker device has been designed for those customers who do not want to invest in the Comet electrical safeties and the Comet type Teletypesetter operating unit. A last mat kicker, either electrical or mechanical is essential to high-speed operation and is beneficial when the Comet is used at slow speeds.

Variable Speed Motor Drive is a quick-change method of varying machine speeds. Recommended for all installations where it is desired to change machine speeds at different intervals.

The Thermo-Blo Mold Cooler is recommended on Comets, particularly for Teletypesetter operation.

If the Comet is purchased for manual operation, the Comet Electric Pot should be specified, if at any

future time a Teletypesetter may be used. A gas pot can not be used at 12 lines per minute.

All Comet Linotypes intended for **Teletypesetter operation** will be shipped from the factory with belt, pulley and pinion for 8 lines per minute. Parts for 10 and 12 lines per minute will be included without extra charge.

When a Comet is sold to a customer every effort should be made to sell **new matrices**. When the Comet is operated at 12 lines per minute, it is necessary for the matrices to be either new or in good condition. Also each channel in the magazine should be full or nearly full at all times.

The Comet Information Sheet is to be provided for each machine. This information is necessary in order to complete our records, and to furnish data to properly schedule machines for production. The most important item is to state whether machine is for Teletypesetter or Manual operation, if to be shipped for Manual operation and later to be converted to Teletypesetter operation, such information is to be furnished.