

**Title:** Cutler-Hammer, Inc., Collection

**Reference Code:** Mss-2433

**Inclusive Dates:** 1942 – 1978

**Quantity:** 0.7 cu. ft.

**Location:** ER, Sh. 029

**Abstract:** Cutler-Hammer began in 1892 when H.H. Cutler, E.W. Hammer, Charles Wirt, and F.S. Terry organized the Chicago Electric and Manufacturing Company. At first, a general machine shop, the company soon specialized in electric starters, speed regulators and field rheostats. The following year, the company was incorporated in Illinois as the Cutler-Hammer Manufacturing Company. In 1898, Cutler-Hammer merged with the American Rheostat Company of Milwaukee, retaining the Cutler-Hammer name. The company moved its offices and factory to a building on the corner of 12<sup>th</sup> Street and St. Paul Avenue in Milwaukee in 1899. The company flourished, obtaining a patent for the first automatic motor starter in 1900 and designing the control equipment for the Panama Canal in 1901. By the 1930s, engineers at Cutler-Hammer had obtained 28 patents for the use of vacuum tubes to control heavy currents. In 1952, the company began production at a new 31-acre facility located at North 30th Street and West Hope. Cutler-Hammer became part of Eaton Corporation in 1978 bringing over \$500 million in sales of a complete portfolio of power control and switching devices.

**Scope and Content:** The collection consists of a 50<sup>th</sup>-anniversary company history, 1942 (multiple copies), annual reports, 1947-1978 (not inclusive), quarterly reports, miscellaneous speeches/presentation by company executives, patents on CH motor control equipment, 1904-1907 and several 1946-1947 Cutler-Hammer ads from *The Saturday Evening Post*.

**Access and Use:** No restrictions

**Language:** English