



Re: DELTA | PORTER-CABLE's External Submission Procedure

Dear 'Inventor'

Thank you for your recent enquiry regarding our evaluation procedure for externally submitted suggestions. As a company we are, in principle, very happy to evaluate ideas against our specific business requirements, subject to the following conditions:-

- The idea must be novel
- The idea must be protected by a patent or be provisionally protected by a patent application
- The idea must be relevant to our core businesses
- The idea must eventually be economically viable from a manufacturing and marketing perspective
- The idea must in our opinion satisfy the needs of our customers
- We will only consider your proposal in open, that is non-confidential circumstances

As stated above, we will only consider ideas for which a patent has been applied. This, in our opinion, is the best way of ensuring that your intellectual property is afforded the utmost protection possible. If you have not yet applied for a patent in respect of your idea we would suggest that you contact your national Patent Office, or the European Patent Office. Information about these may be found at the European Patent Office web-site: www.epo.org
This procedure is to safeguard your rights by preventing you from making a 'public disclosure' of your idea prior to seeking protection.

The decision to apply for a patent rests entirely with you and you should be aware that there is no guarantee either expressed or implied that DELTA | PORTER-CABLE will have any interest in your submission.

If you choose to apply for a Patent you may further choose to contact us again once you have received a filing receipt from the Patent Office. In these early stages you should send to us only a copy of your patent application to enable us to conduct our initial review on a non-confidential basis, as to its suitability or otherwise for our business.

We acknowledge correspondence within 10 days of receipt and a formal reply will normally follow within 4-6weeks.

We thank you for your interest shown to date and we assure you of our best attention at all times.

Yours sincerely,

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