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Press release: Alcoa and Raymond in Aluminium Light Poles Venture

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PRESS RELEASE FROM THE PREMIER, MR. DUNSTAN.

ALCOA AND RAYMOND IN ALUMINIUM LIGHT POLES VENTURE. 15.1.73

A new Company has been formed in South Australia to make aluminium light poles for Australian and South-East Asian streets and highways, the Premier, Mr. Dunstan, announced tonight.

Initial capital investment is about \$750,000.

Tapered and seamless, the poles will be spun and finished by the only plant of its type in the country.

Prices will be competitive with other manufactured street light columns.

The new Company, Raymond Aluminium Pty. Ltd., is owned jointly by Raymond Industries Pty. Ltd., Adelaide, and Alcoa of Australia Ltd. and will employ twenty people initially.

This will be increased eventually to an estimated forty-five people as production expands. An additional fifty employees will be required by Raymond Industries in activities directly dependent on the light pole project.

Initial production capacity will be in excess of 10,000 light poles a year.

Mr. Dunstan said the factory would be in Salisbury. Production was expected to begin within twelve months and would include flag poles as well as light poles.

The Raymond light pole would be designed with a safety feature which, in a collision, resulted in the pole snapping off at the base and falling harmlessly aside.

A spokesman for the Company said this would considerably reduce danger to human life on the highway in the event of a car hitting a pole.

The system has been tested and perfected in Europe and the United States where aluminium light poles are used widely for this and other reasons.