

Conn 6H



Date: 1960. Owner unknown

The 6H has #3 bore (0.500"), and was built from 1919 (but possibly earlier) to sometime between 1926 and 1930 (see separate entry) and reinstated from 1937 to probably 1979. Previously the 6H had been said to have been reinstated in 1947. I now have a Conn brochure dated September 1938 that does list the 6H. However, the 1930~1931 catalog doesn't list the 6H. I suspect the 1947 was an error in the original model number list.

A professional trombone player has tried 6H's from various time periods. He says the differences are in the bell:

- 1949: (7.5" bell) Most amount of core, speaks easily
- 1961: (8" bell) Less core, more open
- 1966: (8" bell) Fuller sound, better low end

The "Artist" and "Victor" names in Conn's various instrument types and models is more or less interchangeable. Even the model number 6H and 10H are the same as the 6A/B and 10A/B. It is my understanding that Frank Rosolino used to play the 6H. If you are a trombone player and don't know who that is, might I suggest you look for him under "jazz". He played with Stan Kenton in the 1950's but also recorded under his own name in the 50's, 60's and 70's.

What Conn said in 1955:

Used and preferred by many of the nation's top professionals in TV and radio, this fine trombone has a specially designed modified large straight bore that's ideal for all types of playing. Has famous "Airfloat" slides with long slide bearing for fast, positive action and smoother 6th or 7th positions. Outside slide is of special Conn bearing formula brass alloy. Length 46"; weight 3 pounds 8 ounces; bell diameter 8". With mouthpiece and music lyre, in handsome Stratoliner case. *Highly polished brass, nickel trim, clear lacquered.*

What Conn said in 1959:

Popular among top professional players where power and volume are required. Medium-large bore for full "voice" in all registers and easy response in high level. Dependable with *tone, scale and slide action*. Features include: *full bore, Crysteel Airfloat lightweight slides, perfect hand balance, Lustre-Conn finish*.

What Conn said in 1966:

Used extensively in concert and dance band work. The most popular professional model because of its versatility. Darker tone than 24H; slightly brighter than 48H. Brass bell. Bore size .500". Bell 8". Length 46".

Conn 12H Coprion



Date: 1940. Owned by Mats Hübner

Instrument has a #2½ Bore (0.484"). The 12H, similar to the 12A and 12B cornet and trumpet, has a coprion bell. It is my belief that the 12H is essentially a 4H with a Coprion bell, since it has the same bore and physically closely resembles it.

I have changed my opinion on when the 12H (12A, 12B) Coprion instruments were first produced. All available Conn documentation indicates the Coprion process was invented in 1938. Nevertheless, there are instruments around with 1937 serial numbers (mostly 12B trumpets). My current theory is that since the 12H (and 12B) are based on other models (in the case of the 12H, the 4H. The 12B is based on the 22B), Conn may have used unfinished versions of the other models. Or, there may have been pre-production models. Who knows. The 12H was produced until 1955.

The 1955 Conn catalog shows a 12H with nickel trim and the word "Coprion" engraved on the mouthpiece receiver. This is a good indication that the 12H changed somewhat towards or in 1955, because earlier models didn't have either.

What Conn said in 1939:

Entirely new trombone in medium bore, developed especially to capitalize on all the advantages of the Coprion bell. You'll appreciate the amazing flexibility of scale, ease of

response and beautiful tone quality which this seamless bell of Coprion gives. Brass, nickel and chromium trim, heavily clear lacquered.

What Conn said in 1955:

Built in Bb, medium bore, with famous seamless COPRION bell that assures superior tone quality, remarkable ease of response and far greater flexibility. Has those smooth, fast, lightweight "Airfloat" slides, with integrally-drawn stockings; and long slide bearing for smooth 6th and 7th positions. Outside slides of special Conn bearing formula alloy. Length 45 1/2"; weight 3 pounds 9 ounces; bell diameter 7". Furnished in attractive two tone tan and rawhide vinyl case (top grain leather binding), with mouthpiece and music lyre. *Highly polished brass, beautifully nickel trimmed, with Coprion bell, clear lacquered overall.*