World Wide!

Compiled by Lowell A. Benson, retired from UNISYS as a Senior Staff Engineer.

INTRODUCTION

Since Legacy Committee's inception in October 2005, our IT Legacy icon has evolved – the last update added a globe to a listing of heritage companies and the Minnesota state outline. The first legacy icon is at the left, current at the right.   All because a simple 'mostly classified work' 1946 ERA company was instrumental in spawning the computer industry. When Burroughs bought Sperry to form UNISYS in 1986, two distinctive threads were continued: 1) Defense industry that faded away with Lockheed Martin in 2012 and 2) Commercial industry systems and hardware that continue today as **UNISYS**, with offices in Eagan, etc..

Why the Globe?   We were international before Burroughs came into the picture. Three international locations/groups are discussed hereunder – each a legacy within our legacy. And stories from contributors show the breadth of international places, programs, and projects. And we have yet to document the story of 490 and 1100 series manufacturing in Rödelheim Germany.

Contents[1]

Edited with Micosoft Word, December 5, 2020

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[1] Click on a section for a quick scroll thereto.
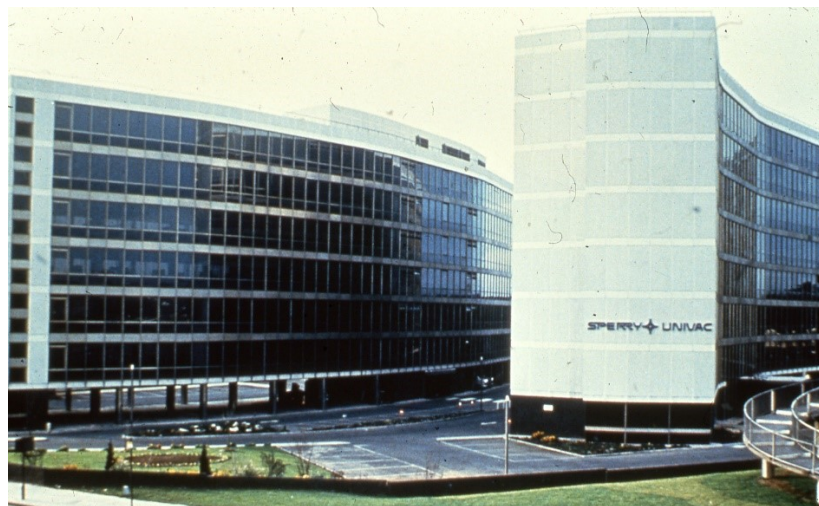
1.   London Development Center – England

UNIVAC's **London Development Center** (LDC) by Arlyn Solberg. 494s, 1108s, Exec 8, Airline Reservation Systems, and Minnesotans overseas are all part of this brief LDC history. Arlyn died in June 2015, his article was updated in April 2020 based on comments by a credible reader from France {see item 3 immediately hereunder.}

1. Reference page 4 of London Development Center paper by Arlyn Solberg. article #186. "The hardware was designed and developed in Roseville and we had the vintage 494 OMEGA software staff to design the new Operating System which we called 1195 PROMEGA."

2. Reference page 6: "LDC became a resource for the Sperry Univac European marketing organizations and User groups."

3. I am Jacques Lignieres, 77-yrs old, retired since 2004. I was with Air France between 1969 and 1988. I was responsible for the Operating System (OS) on the Univac 1108. My team and I built an in-house OS named TOP between 1971-1972 to be able to handle the traffic of the reservation system. This OS has been ported over 12 generations of Unisys computers and had been recently discontinued after more than 47 years of service. Over this time, we were quite often the first user of some Unisys hardware such as the lockbox (*Big Mipper*), or cache disks and sometimes we also connected some IBM equipment.

   In 1987-88, as part of the team that designed Amadeus (which is now the number one Global Distribution System in the world), I was the chief architect. Moreover, in 1988, I was able to convince the Amadeus board to use the Air France fare quote system running on Unisys *Big Mipper* with TOP versus an IBM proposed system.

   Thanks to me, Unisys has enjoyed one of its biggest system configurations between 1990 and 2006 in Erding (Germany). After 7 years in a bank (1988-1995), I was back to Amadeus where I finished my career in '04 as Senior Vice President for Development; responsible for more than 2000 engineers located in France, Germany, US, and Australia.

   {Editor's note: Amadeus stock is traded in Europe as well as in the US.}

1. A slide of the London facility from our museum archives.

2.   Bad Godesberg - Germany

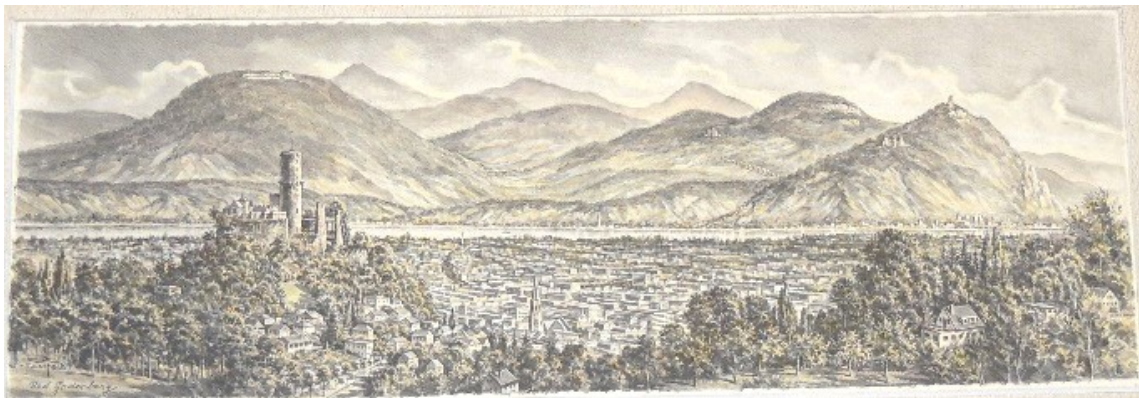This article appeared in the club's September/October 2020 newsletter:

Legacy within our Legacy: At the Dec. 2019 Old Timers' Reunion, Keith Myhre asked, "Who was the Bad Godesberg Director before Lee Dominick?" Although they had worked in Germany in the 70s, attendees Dick Lundgren and Lowell Benson had no answer. A retired (2007) former director, Manfred Wiese, had sent the Legacy committee a **slide presentation** in 2011 which chronicled projects in Germany from 1968 (Sperry Rand) to 1996 (LMCO). No directors were named therein other than Manfred.

We contacted several former Bad Godesberg associated people: Bill Geiger, Dennis Christ, Dieter Hoffmann, Don Blattie, Elwood 'Woody' Knight, and Ernie Lantto for their recollections and stories. Details online: http://vipclubmn.org/International.html#BadGodesberg. This snapshot from 1972 shows the Univac office on Kennedy Alle at that time. The 1st & 2nd floor were staff offices while the 3rd floor was the 'home' of the Director.

The answer is that there was no director before Mr. Lee Dominick. The Bonn DIRECTOR sequence from the above responders is: Lee Dominick, Roland Britton, Gary Humfelt, Chuck Hammond, Al Bettis, Manfred Weise, and Marco Eimuth. Before Lee, there was a marketing office under the management of Gary Holthusen that aided the German Navy with Foreign Military Sales (FMS) of NTDS equipment for their software development installation at Wilhelmshaven. Sadly, LMCO closed the Bad Godesberg office in 2013 after 50+ years of operations.

Picture 1. Painting of Bad Godesberg by the Rhine.

The town is located on the west side of the Rhine river just south of Bonn which was the West Germany Capitol. The American Embassy was located here until moved to Berlin in 1990. The castle at the left center is the Gödesberg, roughly translated as God's mountain. Across the river atop the first mountain (hill) is the St. Petersberg Schloss resort hotel which was Eisenhower's headquarters just after WWII. The rightmost of the seven hills has the ruins of a medieval castle called Drachenfels – Dragons' Rocks. {Editor's note: This painting is on Lowell's living room wall.}

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3.   Navy Systems Center, Canberra Australia

Reference Memories of CDSC (Combat Data Systems Center), a booklet provided to the Legacy Committee by Bruce Grewenow, http://vipclubmn.org/SysDocImg/Memories%20of%20CDSC.pdf. The author was David 'Ginge' Wellings Booth - SERCo Workshop ex RAF, longest serving staff member at CDSC.

Excerpts from booklet:

The programs operating within the AN/UYK-7(V) computer also provided for automatic exchange of tactical data messages between 'own-ship' and other ships equipped with either NTDS or JPTDS. These data exchanges were accomplished by direct digital control of a HF communications system, called LINK-11, by the AN/UYK-7(V) program. Each ship fitted with the NTDS/JPTDS would be able to act either on its own or as part of a group. {like internet automated data exchanges in the 70's.}

The Introduction of New Combat Systems: The 1990s also saw CDSC installing the next (and last) generation of military computer for the FFG combat system, the AN/UYK-43. Incorporating large multifunctional and reconfigurable components, the UYK-43 may be considered two computers in one. It was also faster than its predecessors, had built-in test and redundancy features and the ability to install commercial modules to interlink with COTS and so remain a highly capable unit.

From Faith Rawdon-Smith, US Public Service NTDS combat system engineer: "Trying to get the UNIVAC, Hughes and Collins types to think more forward a bit because it was obvious that one of the things that had to be done was that there would have to be several US contractors in Australia for periods of up to a couple of years. Especially Minnesotans who will get to have two good summers 'down under'."

Minnesotans at the CDSC

1.   Kelly Anderson Sperry (USA) Share/7
2.   Marty Anderson   UNIVAC (USA) original hardware installer
3.   Daryl Beckman Sperry (USA)
4.   John Booher   Sperry (USA) DDG Mod program manager
5.   Andy Carr   Sperry (USA)
6.   Harvey Danielson   UNISYS (USA)
7.   Arnold Doering UNISYS (USA)
8.   Denny Drake   UNIVAC (USA)
9.   Tom Grendzinski   UNIVAC (USA)
10.   Bruce Grewenow   UNIVAC (USA)
11.   Don Henk   Sperry (USA)
12.   Robert Holmes Sperry (USA) Share/7, DDG Mod project engineer
13.   Carol Hyke   Sperry (USA) DDG Mod
14.   Ed Killibrew   UNIVAC (USA) DDG Mod
15.   Richard Kroll   Sperry (USA) Share/7 programmer
16.   Wayne Lundquist   Sperry (USA) Share/7, and DDG Mod Program Manager
17.   Karen Mason   Sperry (USA)
18.   Tom McCarty   Sperry (USA) Share/7
19.   Denny McLaughlin   UNISYS (USA) UNISYS Rep. in Canberra
20.   Denny Moe   UNISYS (USA) Share/7 hardware
21.   Morley Moe   UNIVAC (USA)
22.   Douglas Phelps Sperry (USA) Share/7 programmer
23.   John Rogers   Sperry (Aust)
24.   Gary Stenull   Sperry (USA) Share/43 installer
25.   Don Tredinnick Sperry (USA)

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26. Dale Wandersee   UNISYS (USA) UYK-43 support
27. Rob Williams   Sperry (USA) Share/7
28. John Winiecki   Sperry (USA) Share/7 installation

29. Susan Woods   Sperry (USA) Share/7 programmer
30. Wendell Wosmek   UNIVAC (USA) UYK-43 installer
31. Paul Wozniczka   UNISYS (USA) UYK-43 support

Other International Stories!

Offices noted:

Jim Rapinac, Lyle Franklin, et al' provided information about who was where:

❖ Australia: Robert (John) Williams shared an office with Sperry UNIVAC/UNISYS commercial in Canberra for several years.

❖ Canada, Ottawa was home to many systems and software personnel as we (St. Paul management/engineering) were a co-prime contractor for the Patrol Frigate program.

❖ Canada, Toronto had a Sperry-UNIVAC site (managed by Sperry on Long Island) in the 70's as a modern 'city street' traffic control facility was developed.

❖ France, Paris: the French Navy Computer Center was opened to merge NATO systems with NTDS, Bob Fischer was the site manager for 5-years. When it was successfully operating, Bob returned to St. Paul and was replaced by Ray Costello who reported into the marketing department, http://vipclubmn.org/International.html#Paris

❖ Greece: Pierre Iskos was a one-person marketing office in Athens for many years, http://vipclubmn.org/People4.html#Iskos

❖ Iran: Roland Britten then Joe Howard 1978/79 were there when we pursued the Iranian Frigate program; before the revolution.

Legacy Articles

❖ Anonymous re' Israeli government air force, Project 6977 http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/6977%20Project%20Arbitration.pdf,

❖ Art Francis wrote about the Japanese P-3C, http://vipclubmn.org/sysintl.html#Japan,

❖ David Andersen included the German Otto Versand system on page 5 of http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/The%20Invention%20of%20Voice%20Mail.pdf,

❖ Dennis Abbott wrote about the Canadian Patrol Frigate Program, http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/CanadianPatrolFrigateRev2.pdf,

❖ Dick Lundgren wrote about Africa, http://vipclubmn.org/sysintl.html#Africa,

❖ Dick Lundgren wrote about European Business, http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/Europe.pdf,

❖ Dick Lundgren wrote about Taiwan business, http://vipclubmn.org/sysintl.html#Taiwan,

❖ Dick Lundgren wrote about Thailand business, http://vipclubmn.org/sysintl.html#Thailand,

❖ Don Lovely wrote about Japanese Navy, http://vipclubmn.org/sysintl.html#Japanese,

❖   Ed Pogorzelec wrote about updating the Canadian Patrol Frigates, http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/HalifaxArticle.pdf,

❖   Gene McCarthy wrote about Canadian Business, http://vipclubmn.org/sysintl.html#Canada,

❖   Glen Hambleton has a globe-trotting career summary, http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/GlenHambleton.pdf,

❖   Glen Johnson and Dave Saxerud wrote about Winnipeg manufacturing; open for over two decades, wrote http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/OurWinnipegStory.pdf,

❖   John Booher wrote about the Egyptian Navy, http://vipclubmn.org/sysintl.html#Egypt,

❖   Keith Myhre wrote about Iran, http://vipclubmn.org/sysintl.html#Iran,

❖   Lyle Franklin and Don Neumann wrote about Johnston Atoll, http://vipclubmn.org/International.html#Johnston, and

❖   Michael Knight wrote about the pioneering reservation systems developed by UNIVAC and British European Airways, http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/BEA-ReservationSystemEd1.pdf,

Epilogue

If I have missed any international tidbits, this paper is subject to revision based on reader feedback - for example Keith Myhre sent the London building picture after reading the initial posting.

Finally, I hope you have enjoyed reading the various articles linked above. Personally, marketing support, project, and fix-it trips took me to Canada, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Holland, Italy, Japan, Russia, Sweden, and the then Yugoslavia. It has been a great career as a bit player in the ERA to today legacy!