

A BRIEF HISTORY OF ROCKWELL AUTOMATION

Rockwell Automation is one of the largest industrial automation companies in the world. But it started with one product and a \$1000 investment.

1901 TO 1903

The compression rheostat is invented by Lynde Bradley. It can control the speed of electric motors. Bradley and Dr. Stanton Allen form the Compression Rheostat Co with \$1,000.

1909-1924

The company is reformed under the name Allen-Bradley Co. Government contracts during WWI and increased ownership of radios (which need rheostats) helps the company thrive.

1935

Allen-Bradley invents hot-molded fixed resistors.

1941

WWII. Allen-Bradley components are used in RADAR, fighter planes, and walkie-talkies.

1942

Lynde Bradley passes away. Brother Harry Bradley takes over.

1951

Company components are used one of the world's first computers (UNIVAC)

1965-1981

AB works with NASA on the Apollo 11 mission and the Space Shuttle Fleet.

AB creates the first PLC (programmable logic controller.)

1985

Rockwell International purchases Allen-Bradley for a price of \$1,651 billion.

1994

Rockwell merges with ICOM. This creates Rockwell Software.

1995

The company produces its one millionth PLC.

2001

The company officially takes the name **Rockwell Automation**.

2003

The brand **Allen-Bradley** celebrates 100 years.

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