

History of firm Siemens

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1. Purpose

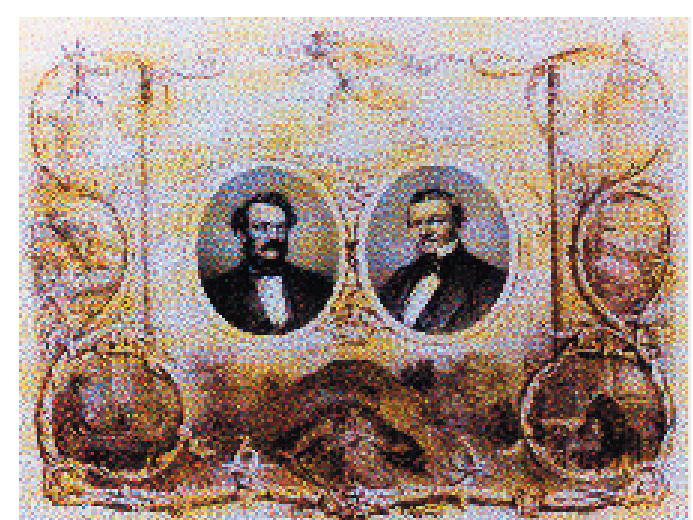
This paper should describe the history of firm Siemens, which is one of the biggest companies in the world.

2. Werner von Siemens and beginning of his company

Before 113 years died man, whose inventions changed the world. Werner von Siemens was born on December 13, 1816, in Lenthe, near Hanover, the fourth of 14 children. There was no any school in the Lenthe, so grandmother took care of Werners primary education. Absence of money precluded the possibility of a university education on completing school, Werner chose the only viable alternative path - technical training as an artillery office with the Prussian army.



Werner von Siemens

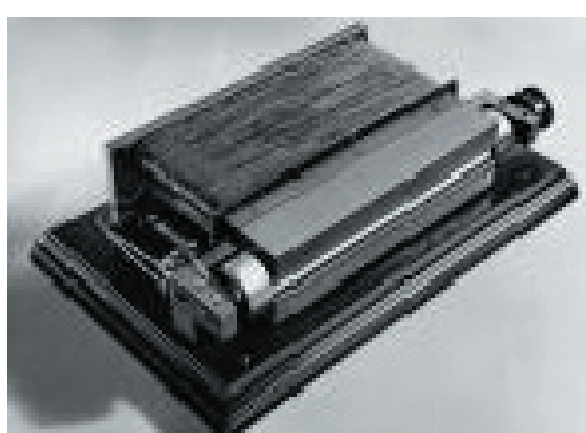


Founders of Siemens & Halske

it would become a “*technology of the future*”. Together with a highly skilled mechanical engineer, Johann Georg Halske (1814-1890), he set up a company, *Telegraphen-Bau-Anstalt von Siemens & Halske*, in Berlin, which went into business in October 1847. Because of a number of successes that began in 1848 with the construction of a telegraph line between Berlin and Frankfurt/Main, the small company grew so quickly and Werner von Siemens had

to leave the army in 1849.

Foreign branches were managed by Werner’s brothers Wilhelm and Carl, whom he had involved in the business early on, having taken over the role of head of the family because of death of his parents. Just eight years after starting up, Siemens & Halske had become an international company.



Electric dynamo

Another activities had come – in 1853 was commented construction of the Russian state telegraph network (it was completed in 1855) and in 1855 the Russian branch of Siemens & Halske was founded. The first Siemens cable works is set up in Woolwich on the river Thames in 1863.



Werner von Siemens

Through the successful completion of highly complex technological projects involving considerable financial risk, such as the construction of the Indo-European telegraph line from London to Calcutta (used until 1931) or the laying of large transatlantic cables, the company soon became well known.

In 1866 Werner von Siemens made his most important contribution to electrical engineering with his discovery of the dynamoelectric principle, thus paving the way for the use of electricity as a source of energy. His invention marked the dawn of the age of electrical engineering.

Werner von Siemens was raised to the nobility in 1888 by Emperor Friedrich III in acknowledgement of his services to science and society. But he also made his mark as a pioneer in a non-technical field - in social policy. He introduced social benefits that were frequently ahead of their time, including a company pension scheme in 1872 (many years before Bismarck introduced national insurance legislation), a nine-hour working day in the same year (when 10-12 hours were the rule else-where).

Werner von Siemens died in Berlin on December 6, 1892. During what had been a full and active life, his interest has also extended to public affairs. As a member of the German Progress Party he had held a seat in the Prussian parliament (1862 – 1866), in 1879 he had co-founded the *Electrotechnical Society* in Berlin; and he had set up a foundation to support the *Physical-Technical Institute of the Reich*, established in 1887.



Theatre of the Estates

3. Siemens in Czechoslovakia

Siemens has in our country very long tradition. First branch was opened in Prague and Brno in 1890. In 1881 lighting system in Rustons machine-works company in Libeň, on which realization Siemens & Halske participated, was finished. In 1885 lighting system in Stavovské divadlo (Theatre of the Estates) in Prague was accomplished by Siemens & Halske. There were installed 2 differential arc lamps and 1161 light bulbs. In Brno was electric light used since 1887, when Siemens & Halske built first power plant there. Since the beginning of 20th century Siemens started to build up wide network of branches and manufacture. Let’s recall a few another interesting dates from history:

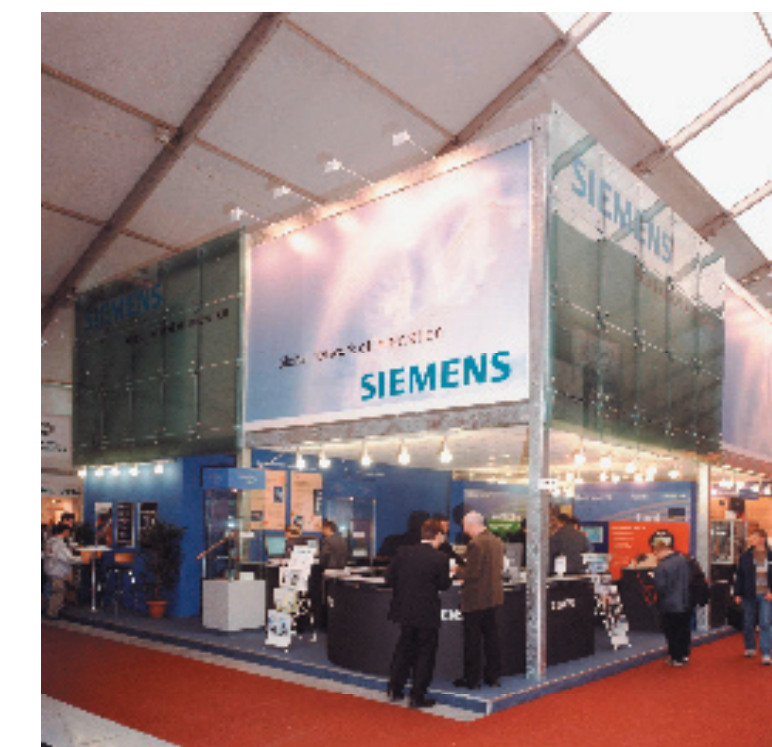
- **1890** The first subsidiary in Prague and Brno
- **1896** Siemens built another town power plants in Frýdlant, Doksy and Rumburk
- **1897** Siemens built another power plants in Varnsdorf, Bilina and Jiřikov
- **1899** Electric streetcar system in Olomouc (length more then 5km, cars were endued with 15 kW engines)

- **1901** Steam railway was electrified
- **1912** Commencement of a Siemens - Schuckert mine hoist in the Imperial Mine, Sokolov region. At that time, this meant a revolution in mining methods.
- **1919** Connection of Prague to the most advanced European telegraph network of its time
- **1938** There are approximately 2000 employees working in Siemens companies (2 plants in Prague, one in Mohelnice, engineering offices in Brno, Karlovy Vary, Liberec, Ostrava, Teplice)
- **1945-48** All Siemens plants are nationalized
- **1948-89** There are no Siemens plants in the Czech Republic; products are imported in limited quantities through the mediation of Foreign Trade Corporation, and then through Efektim (1970)
- **1990** Siemens AG and MED are established
- **1992** SNI, ANF Data, SET Trutnov and SKS are established
- **1995** 11 companies, 8469 employees
- **2001** Siemens comprises 25 companies, 11,000 employees, sales of CZK 32 billion
- **2002** Siemens comprises 25 companies, 10,000 employees, sales of CZK 37 billion
- **2003** Siemens comprises 25 companies, 11,000 employees, sales of CZK 39.4 billion
- **2004** Siemens comprises 23 companies, more than 12,000 employees, sales of CZK 46 billion

4. Siemens in the Czech Republic

The Siemens AG office in the Czech Republic was reopened in 1990 (as mentioned above). A total of 23 companies form the Siemens group in the Czech Republic. With more than 12,000 employees, Siemens is one of the largest employers in the country. In the Czech Republic, Siemens is active in the following areas:

- *Information and Communication* - Siemens is leading supplier of communication technology in the Czech Republic. It offers customers an integrated range of products, solutions, and services for fixed and mobile telecommunication networks, terminal telecommunication equipment and mobile phones. Siemens is also a system integrator and supplier of business solutions.
- *Automation and Control* - Siemens offers products, systems, comprehensive solutions, and services for industrial automation, building technologies and road transport control. Siemens helps its customers optimize their production processes and enhance their efficiency by applying the very latest information technology.
- *Power and Infrastructure* - in terms of power and infrastructure, Siemens offers a full range of products, solutions, and services for power generation and distribution.
- *Transportation* - Siemens is a leading supplier of rail transportation equipment and technology, as well as of components for the automotive industry.
- *Medical* - Siemens offers cutting-edge products, services, integrated solutions for diagnostics and treatment methods as well as IT solutions to make processes at healthcare facilities more efficient.
- *Home Appliances* – Siemens also produces washing machines, dishwashers, cookers, and other equipment and technology for the home.
- *Lighting* - Siemens lighting products are marketed as the OSRAM brand.
- *Electronic Components* - The passive components sold by Siemens are an integral element of appliances and systems in all areas of electronics and electrical technology.
- *Purchasing and Logistics* - The regional office of Siemens Procurement and Logistics Services for Eastern Europe has been opened to access global markets, optimize logistics processes and e-commerce of purchase management.



Siemens – global network of innovation

In the fiscal year 2003/2004 (ending 30 September 2004), the Siemens group in the Czech Republic showed a turnover of CZK 46 bn.

5. References

- [1] <http://web.ukonline.co.uk/freshwater/>
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