

DAYCO Corporation

MS – 199

Wright State University  
Special Collections and Archives

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Spring 1994

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Summer 2012

## Introduction

The DAYCO Corporation business records photographs chronicle the history of the company from its early beginning as the Dayton Rubber (Manufacturing) Company to its later operation as the DAYCO Corporation in Dayton, Ohio and the operation of its numerous divisions and subsidiaries throughout the world in the twentieth century. The collection was donated to the Special Collections and Archives Department of the Wright State University Libraries in October of 1986 by William Picuch, Director of Communications, DAYCO Corporation.

The collection occupies seventeen boxes of 8.5 linear feet. This includes thirteen boxes of photographs or approximately 2 linear feet. The DAYCO Corporation records date inclusively from 1905-1974. There are no restrictions on the use of the collection.

The collection is arranged into the following series and sub-series:

- Series 1: Historical Files
- Series 2: Advertising Reprints
- Series 3: Oversize Materials
- Series 4: Photographs
  - Sub-series A: Alliance Tire and Rubber Company, Limit
  - Sub-series B: Cadillac Plastic and Chemical Company
  - Sub-series C: Dayton Plant
  - Sub-series D: Waynesville, NC Plant
  - Sub-series E: Additional Plants, Laboratories and Warehouses
  - Sub-series F: People
  - Sub-series G: Events
  - Sub-series H: Foam Mattresses
  - Sub-series I: Pontoons
  - Sub-series J: Printing Products
  - Sub-series K: Textiles
  - Sub-series L: Tires
  - Sub-series M: Miscellaneous Products
  - Sub-series N: Miscellaneous

## Agency History

The DAYCO Corporation was founded on May 17, 1905 as the Dayton Rubber Company by Col. John C. Hooven, a nationally known industrialist, of Hamilton, Ohio to manufacture garden hose, fruit-jar rings, and other products made of natural rubber. In 1908, John A. MacMillian, a young inventor from Prince Edward Island, joined the company with a new product, the airless tire, which he had patented. He served the company as general manager, company president, and in 1936, retired as the Chairman of the Board of the company. The airless tire proved to be a sales success and was responsible for much of the company's early growth and prosperity. In 1913, the Dayton Rubber Company introduced for sale the first white sidewall tires.

In 1917, ground was broken on a new factory site for the Dayton Rubber Company of more than twenty acres on the main line of the Pennsylvania Railroad. The first unit of the plant was completed and occupied in 1918. Two years later, in 1920, the plant was expanded and was able to double its output.

In 1919, A.L. Freedlander joined the Dayton Rubber (Manufacturing) Company as chief chemist and engineer, and factory manager. In 1921, he initiated the "Diversification Program" which moved the company into the production of varied products throughout the years. In 1936, Freedlander became company president and general manager, a position he held until he was elevated to the position of Board Chairman in 1957. He held the position of Board Chairman until he stepped down in 1968 to become Chairman of the Executive Committee and a Director, positions he held until his death in 1971 at the age of 82 years. Remarkably, Freedlander's career with the DAYCO Corporation spanned 52 years.

Throughout the years, the DAYCO Corporation was responsible for many industry firsts. Among some of the DAYCO Corporation's company firsts were the first pneumatic tire and later the first tubeless pneumatic tire; the first "raw edge" automotive fan belt; the first industrial V-Belt, which has never been substantially modified, and the first successful V-Belt using a fastener (railroads); the first cog-belt; the world's first low-air-pressure tire; the first synthetic rubber printing rollers; the first synthetic rubber tire; the first synthetic rubber textile manufacturing components; the first plastic hose for hairdryers and vacuum cleaners; and the unispace 9500 chair for first and tourist class airline passengers.

In the 1930's, the Dayton Rubber (Manufacturing) Company, entered the textile field, another move toward diversification of products. The company produced vital machinery parts for spinning and weaving machinery by adapting newer types of synthetic rubber for many of the parts. In 1941, a new plant was built in Waynesville, NC to produce textile machinery parts.

During World War II, the Dayton Rubber (Manufacturing) Company made significant contributions to the war effort by producing wartime products. The plant in Dayton, Ohio produced bogie tires for tanks and light-weight, non-collapsible life-giving oxygen hose able to withstand extreme temperature ranges and at the Waynesville, NC plant, pontoons and life rafts were produced. For their efforts, both plants received the Army-Navy "E" Awards.

The Dayton Rubber (Manufacturing) Company, later known as the DAYCO Corporation, acquired many companies throughout the years which led to its successful diversification of products. Some of the Dayton Rubber (Manufacturing) Company's divisions or subsidiaries include(d) the following:

American Latex Products Corporation of Hawthorne, California, acquired in 1952, a principal producer of foam rubber mattresses, cushions, and furniture pads.

Cadillac Plastic and Chemical Co. of Detroit, Michigan, acquired in 1957, responsible for producing plastic sheet, rod, and tubing.

Hardman Aerospace (subsidiary) of West Los Angeles, California, acquired in 1959, whose principle products include aircraft seating, interior components and cargo containers, and aerospace restraint systems.

In 1963, the Cadco Film Division, whose principle product includes solvent cast and shrinkable PVC film, was established.

In 1967, the Los Angeles Standard Rubber Co. (subsidiary), a producer of rubber and silicone seals and gaskets, and miscellaneous aircraft products; and L.E. Carpenter & Company (subsidiary) of Wharton, New Jersey, a producer of high style vinyl wall coverings were acquired. Seward Luggage Manufacturing (subsidiary) of Petersburg, Virginia, a producer of trunks, and soft and hard side luggage; and TA Fastener Company (subsidiary) of Los Angeles, California, a principle producer of fasteners, aircraft hardware, clamps, and precision instrument cases were purchased for cash the same year.

In 1960, the company had officially changes its name from the Dayton Rubber (Manufacturing) Company to the DAYCO Corporation.

## Scope and Content

### Series I: Historical Files

Included in this series are the DAYCO Corporation records which span the years 1905-1974, documenting the activities of the company and its varied products over the years. The company records are arranged alphabetically by file folder within each box and if possible, the materials within the respective file folder(s) are arranged chronologically. This series contains correspondence, reports, memos, working papers, newspaper clippings, newsletters, annual and quarterly reports, catalogs, sales manuals (domestic and international), and ephemera. Of special interest are files (two) on A.L. Freedlander, who devoted 52 years of his life to the company as company president and general manager, later as Board Chairman and then as Chairman of the Executive Committee and a Director. The earliest record, dates 1905, is the company's Articles of Incorporation.

### Series II: Advertising Reprints

The advertising reprints, arranged chronologically by file folder, which make up this series cover the years 1961-1969. Included are reprints of ads, both industrial and non-industrial, which appeared in a variety of magazines. The industrial ad reprints cover the years 1961-1969 while the non-industrial ad reprints are from the years 1968 and 1969. Both reprints of black and white and color advertisements are included.

### Series III: Oversize Materials

This series contains items which were too large in size to be placed in file folders within their particular series and had to be placed in a larger size box to accommodate them. Included in this series are the "Dayton Views", a company newsletter from the years 1941-1944 (produced during the years of World War II) and oversize photographs. One photograph, circa 1917, is of people at the new plant location near the railroad before it was constructed and three photographs, circa the first decade of the twentieth century, are of company picnics.

### Series IV: Photographs

This series is divided into fourteen sub-series: A. Alliance Tire and Rubber, Limited; B. Cadillac Plastic and Chemical Company; C. Dayton Plant; D. Waynesville, NC Plant; E. Additional Plants, Laboratories, and Warehouses; F. People; G. Events; H. Foam Mattresses; I. Pontoons; J. Printing Products; K. Textiles; L. Tires; M. Miscellaneous Products; and N. Miscellaneous. Included in this series, spanning the years 1934-1972, is an extensive collection of photographs and a small collection of slides and negatives which provide a visual documentary of the DAYCO Corporation. Chronicled visually is the history of the company through the various photographs, slides and negatives which depict scenes of the company, its numerous plants its employees, its events and its varied products.

Container Listing

**Series I: Historical Files**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	1	Allen Industries, Inc. (Subsidiary of DAYCO)	1967-1969
	2	Allied Products of Chicago Takeover Attempt of DAYCO	1966
	3	Annual Reports	1936-1969
	4	Army-Navy "E" Award	1945
	5	Articles of Incorporation	1905
	6	Askim Gummivarefabrik	1951-1957
	7	Belts	n.d.
	8	Belts – Catalogs	1929-1953
	9	Belts – Catalogs	1944
2	1	Belts – Catalogs	1957
	2	Belts	1948-1954
	3	Belts – Conversion to Synthetics	1947-1958
	4	Belts – Pamphlets	1940-1955
	5	Belts – Promotional Material	1955
3	1	Belts – Sales Information	1933
	2	Belts – Sales Information	1948
	3	Belts – V-Belt Cotton Cleaner	1951
	4	Cadillac Plastic and Chemical Co./Cadco Film Division	1957-1968
	5	Calendar Train	1948-1952
	6	Carpenter, L.E. & Company	1967
	7	Copolymer Rubber & Chemical Corp.	1948-1963
	8	Corporate Advertising	1966
	9	Dayflex Plastics Division	1966
	10	Dayton Art Institute	1947
4	1	Dayton Rubber – 50 years	1955
	2	Dayton Rubber Co. (Canada) Ltd.	1957-1967
	3	Dividend Enclosures	1941-1955
	4	Dundee Plant	1956-1971
	5	Financial Relations	1966-1969
	6	Flow Charts	1969
	7	Fluorcarbon Polymers Market Survey	1966
	8	Foam Rubber History	1946-1974
	9	Foam Products	1967-1968
5	1	Freedlander, A.L.	1934-1971
	2	Freedlander. A.L.	1934-1971
	3	Good Housekeeping Magazine	1967-1968
	4	Hardman Aerospace	1959-1969

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
5	5	Hardman Aerospace	1959-1969
	6	Hardman Aerospace	1959-1969
	7	Holfast Rubber Co.	1953-1957
	8	Hollingshead, RM Corp.	1973-1974
	9	Hose Manufacturing Co., Flexible Metal	1973
	10	Hose, Vacuum Dayflex	1950-1968
	11	Industrial Roll Division	1960
6	1	International Ad Reprints	1959-1966
	2	International Catalogs	1963
	3	International Direct Mail Sales Brochures, Etc.	1960
	4	Inventors Club	1965
	5	Name Change	1959-1961
	6	National Hose & Tubing, Dover NJ	1960-1966
	7	Neoprene – Historical	1945
	8	Newcome Society	1969
	9	PGA Championship	1969
	10	“Patents and First”	n.d.
	11	Patent Article, R. Wolk, (reprint)	1965
	12	Polysystems & Chemical	1964
	13	Power Transmitter, The	1947-1949
	14	Premier Tyres, India	1959-1963
	15	Printing Products	1967-1968
7	1	Printing Products – Blankets	1950-1971
	2	Printing Products – Color Separators	1966-1969
	3	Printing Products – Color Separator Release	1947
	4	Printing Products Division	1959-1961
	5	Printing Products – Miscellaneous	1949
	6	Printing Products – Rollers	1959-1964
	7	Quarterly Reports	1956-1971
	8	Quarterly Century Club (Organized 1951)	1951-1961
8	1	Rayon Story	1933-1963
	2	Roller Blanket Survey	1967
	3	Rollers – Historical	1958
	4	Rubber – Historical	1967
	5	Rubber Companies – Historical	1913-1943
	6	Rubber Products Division (Industrial Sales Meeting)	1971
	7	Sales Manual	1924
	8	Sales Manual – “The Great Rubber Match”	n.d.
	9	Seward Luggage (A DAYCO Company), Petersburg, VA	1919-1970

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
9	1	Springday Company, Springfield, MO	1958-1968
	2	Springday Plant – Identification, Research & Development	1967
	3	Stock Certificate	1952
	4	Stockholders Reports and Miscellaneous Records	1923-1924
	5	Strike Material	1948
	6	Synthetic Rubber – General	1942-1946
	7	Ten Year Club	1946-1948
	8	Textile Data	1950-1967
	9	Textile History	1938-1963
	10	Textiles – Natural and Synthetic	1952-1958
	11	Textile Product Data	n.d.
	12	Textile Product Manual	1957-1960
	13	Thorobred Emblem History	1952
	14	Thorobred Topics	1944
10	1	Three Rivers, MI Plant	1956-1963
	2	Time Magazine Ads	1950
	3	Tires – Historical	1917-1959
	4	Trademarks – Historical	1963
	5	Urethane	1957-1961
	6	Wall Street Journal Schedule	1966
	7	Waynesville, NC	1953-1967
	8	Waynesville – Army-Navy “E” Award	1945
	9	Waynesville, NC Mountaineer Newspaper Ads	1944-1947
	10	Waynesville, NC Plant Newspaper Clippings	1941-1965
11	1	Waynesville Plant – Historical	1940-1966
	2	Waynesville Thorobred Activities	1944-1956
	3	Waynesville Thorobred News	1956-1958
	4	World II and Dayton Rubber	1944-1945

### **Series II: Advertising Reprints**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
12	1	Industrial Ad Reprints	1961-1969
	2	Permanent File Ad Reprints – All Division Fiscal Year	1968
	3	1969 Permanent File for Ad Reprints	1969

### **Series III: Oversize Materials**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
13	1	Dayton Views	1941-1944
	2	Photograph – Factory Groundbreaking	1917
	3	Photographs (3) – Company Picnics	1920



**Series IV: Photographs****Sub-series A: Alliance Tire and Rubber Company, Limited**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
14	1	Alliance/Dayton Rubber/Anchor Luncheon	1954
	2	Board Meeting	1954
	3	Buildings	1951-1954
	4	Opening of Plant	1952
	5	Shraga Goren	1957
	6	Collected	1951-1955

**Sub-series B: Cadillac Plastic and Chemical Company**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
14	7	Buildings	1958-1965
	8	Cadco Film Division, Howel, MI	n.d.
	9	Kalamazoo, MI Plant	n.d.
	10	Linden, NJ Plant	n.d.
	11	Photographs for Film	n.d.
	12	Plastics Warehousing	n.d.
	13	Miscellaneous	1964-1967

**Sub-series C: Dayton Plant**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
14	14	Buildings	1951-1956
	15	Christmas Decorations	1947
	16	D.R. Technical Symposium	1960
	17	Dayton Tire Sales Construction	1951
	18	Laboratory	n.d.
	19	Collected	1966
	20	Dayton Rubber Plant Production Photos	1958

**Sub-series D: Waynesville, NC Plant**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
14	21	Waynesville Plant	1943-1972
	22	Army-Navy "E" Award	1945
	23	Waynesville Lab	n.d.

**Sub-series E: Additional Plants, Laboratories and Warehouses**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
14	24	Canada	n.d.
	25	Dundee, Scotland	1963-1970
	26	Marietta, OH	1955

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
14	27	Springfield, MO	1958-1960
	28	Three Rivers, MI	n.d.
	29	Laboratories	1958
	30	Warehouses	1961
	31	Collected	1963

#### **Sub-series F: People**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
15	1	Askim Gummivarefabrik, Messers. Nicholaysen and Stuksnaes and Wives	1947-1955
	2	Freedlander, A.L.	1939-1956
	3	Freedlander, A.L.	1944-1964
	4	Freedlander, A.L.	1953-1968
	5	Jacob, Robert A.	1962-1965
	6	Jacob, Robert J.	n.d.
	7	MacMillian, J.A.	n.d.
	8	Lowell Thomas (Visit)	n.d.

#### **Sub-series G: Events**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
15	9	Ten Year Club Banquet	1944-1947
	10	Ten Year Club Banquet	1946
	11	Ten Year Club Banquet	1947
	12	Ten Year Club Banquet	1948
	13	Twenty-five Year Club	1949
	14	Quarter Century Club Dinner, Van Cleve Hotel	1951-1961
	15	Firestone Dinner, Van Cleve Hotel	1961
	16	Golden Jubilee Dinner	1955
16	1	Golden Jubilee Dinner	1955
	2	Kettering, C.F. Seventy-fifth Birthday	n.d.

#### **Sub-series H: Foam/Mattresses**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
16	3	Foam/Mattresses	n.d.
	4	Urethane	n.d.
	5	Minute Man Missiles	1963
	6	Sales Convention	1950

**Sub-series I: Pontoons**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
16	7	Production	1941-1945
	8	In Use	1941-1945

**Sub-series J: Printing Products**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
16	9	Blankets	1963-1971
	10	Color Separator	n.d.
	11	Color Separator Press Kit and Fountain Divider	n.d.
	12	Daycolympics Sales Meeting	1972
	13	Rollers	1963
	14	Roller Blankets	n.d.
	15	Roller Blankets	n.d.

**Sub-series K: Textiles**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
16	16	Cots and Aprons	n.d.
	17	Catalog	1969
	18	Catalog	1970
17	1	Cocktail Dinner	1970
	2	Inspection	n.d.
	3	Production in Mills	1943

**Sub-series L: Tires**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
17	4	Daycolan Industrial Truck	1960
	5	Designed by Raymond Loewy	1960
	6	Synthetic Tires	1934
	7	Ultapara and Regular Tires	1949
	8	Urethane Tire Shoot	1959

**Sub-series M: Miscellaneous Products**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
17	9	Belts	n.d.
	10	Hoses	1959-1967
	11	Lawn Mower Blade Safety Test	1968
	12	Moth Shield	n.d.

**Sub-series N: Miscellaneous**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
17	13	Exhibits	n.d.
	14	Logo	n.d.
	15	Hospital Plaques	1965
	16	Premier Tire Factory, India	1961-1962
	17	Renault Factory, Seine, France	1952
	18	Veterans	1947
	19	Views from Herman Miller Building	1961
	20	Dayton Rubber Company Employees	1936
	21	Negatives	1936
	22	Negatives	n.d.
	23	Slides	n.d.
	24	Collected	n.d.