

Varian named the top business

NOTE: The following is reprinted from The Herald, Jan. 11 edition:

A long-time Georgetown company which is known for its tubes has been chosen business of the year by the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber announced its selection of Varian Canada Monday morning.

The River Drive company is to receive the eighth annual award at a special dinner Feb. 18 at the North Halton Golf and Country Club.

The Chamber makes its choice on the basis of an individual or corporation displaying good business ethics and making a significant impact on the social and economic well-being of the area.

Located in Georgetown since it began in 1955 as the supplier of microwave tubes to the Canadian government, Varian has steadily increased in size.

From a 5,000 square foot office near the GO train station, Varian has gone to a modern building on River Drive, that is 115,000 square feet. Georgetown was chosen for its cheap land and proximity to the Lester B. Pearson airport.

At the plant, power klystrons and travelling wave tubes are manufactured for telephone companies. Varian's products allow a telephone message to be amplified, sent to a satellite and bounced back to earth where the signal is received.

Northern Telecom, Bell Canada, AT and T in the United States as well as General Telephone and Electronics are among Varian's customers.

The subsidiary of Varian Associates of Palo Alto, California, also produces many unique and customized products for worldwide markets. Annual sales are \$30 million, of which 80 per cent is to companies outside Canada.

Varian Canada employs 370 people and has an annual payroll of \$113 million, most of which remains in the Halton Hills area, General Manager Joe Caldarelli says.

Varian hosted blood clinic

In May of last year Varian employees did something very special for the community.

Varian management co-sponsored the first ever industrial blood clinic for businesses in Georgetown with help from William Neilson Co. Ltd.

The fitness room was transformed into a blood clinic and businesses across Georgetown were encouraged to participate.

"We will continue to hold the blood donor clinic and will alternate the location with Neilson," Mrs. Kron said.

"It was very successful. We were very pleased with the response from employees."

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His testing reassures that a product will work at the specifications required by the customer, he said. It's like quality control, he explained. One example he gave was applying stress to a power supply at a higher temperature than would normally be required by the customer.

One of the test sets was built and designed by Mr. Willis.

Mr. Willis was born and raised in London, England until he was 11 years old. He moved to Georgetown in 1972 and attended Georgetown District High School. Mr. Willis, 25, said he's always had an interest in electronics.

With support from the company, he's going to Sheridan College two nights a week taking engineering technology courses. Mr. Willis is particularly proud of a program he wrote for a digital controller which automatically cycles power supplies on and off, he said.

Paul Kubinec works in the plant engineering department. His department maintains the building, property and equipment. Some new designs for the building are done in the department and then are taken to the builder, he said.

Mr. Kubinec is a graduate of Sheridan College in the drafting technician program. He has worked and lived in Georgetown for five years but he grew up in Milton.

There are 15 employees in the plant engineering department. Mr. Kubinec said he likes working for Varian because there's a close-knit family attitude and management is flexible.

A father of two children, ages 2½ and 1 year, he tries to be as active as

Employee on Varian team

possible in their development.

Malcolm Evans is one of 24 employees in the power supply research and development department. His department develops and designs power supplies from specifications supplied by marketing

worked at Varian for seven years. He came to Canada in 1969 and has been living in Georgetown since 1971.

A graduate of Georgetown District High School, Mr. Evans went to school and took electronics in Wales.



MALCOLM EVANS

or the customers. Then it's up to the production department to mass produce the item after everything has tested out to the research department's satisfaction.

One product now being designed by the department will be used to power a medical laser, he said.

Born in Wales, Mr. Evans has



ERIC ROSS

He is married and has one daughter, aged 1½ and will be expecting another in August. He likes sports, especially soccer. Mr. Evans plays on the Varian-sponsored soccer team which plays in the local Inter-county league. He proudly reports

that the team was recently pro-

moted to the first division for their winning record.

The best thing he likes about Varian is that everyone is given an equal chance to advance, he said.

The power supply engineering department is a good place to work because the tasks always vary, he said. "The engineer comes up with the idea and we're the ones who build it," he said. "You see a lot of different equipment and you definitely learn something every day around here," he said.

Eric Ross was born in Pakistan when it was still part of India. He came to England in 1945 and immigrated to Canada in 1962, becoming a Canadian citizen.

He joined Varian as soon as he came to this country. Mr. Ross is the production manager for the Klystron department. The department manufactures power klystrons, reflex klystrons and millimetre reflex klystrons, three distinct product lines.

There are 33 employees working in his department. The people in the department build and test klystrons, used in satellite communications and radar systems. Ground stations for satellite communications use klystrons to amplify transmissions up to the satellite, he said.

Mr. Ross is a director of the North Halton Golf and Country Club. Living in Georgetown since 1964, he enjoys golf and curling.

He likes Varian for its proximity, cleanliness, good management, nice working conditions, good employee/management relations and the interesting technology.

"You're treated here like you're not just a number," he said.

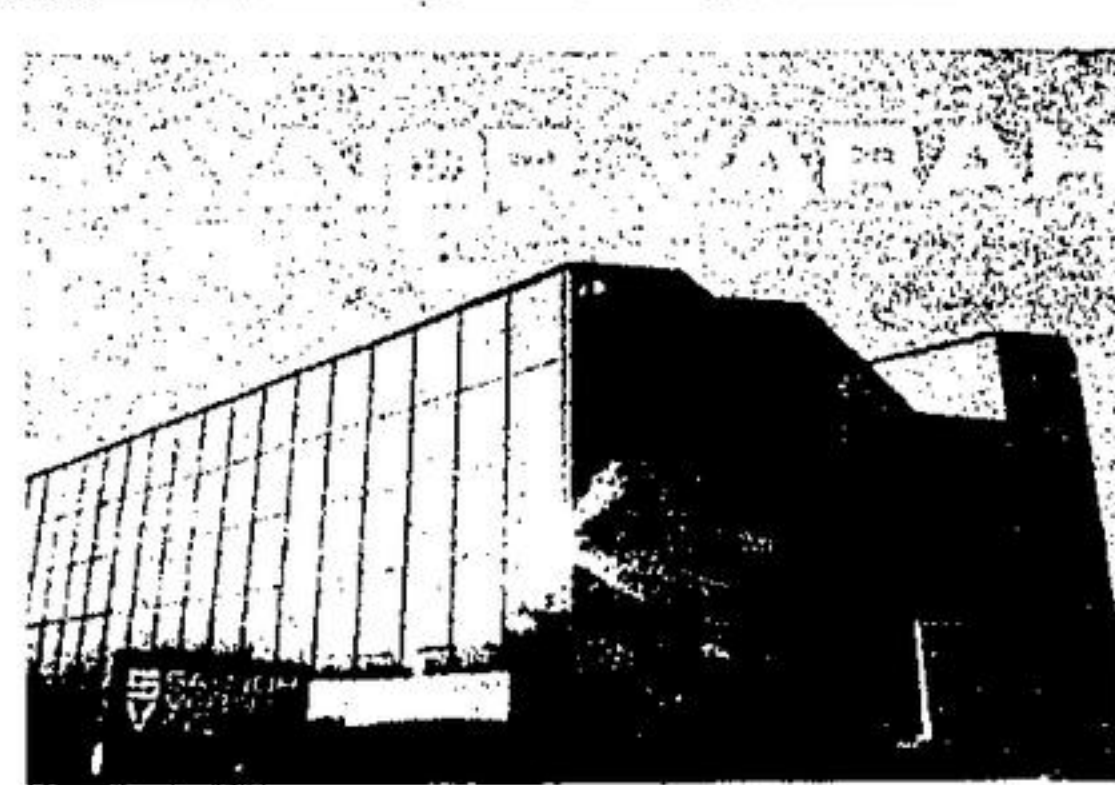
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