

Varian receives prestigious award

The Canada Microwave Division of Varian Associates, Inc. in Georgetown, Ontario, has captured the first U.S. Army Communication Electronics Command (CECOM) Blue Ribbon Contractor Award. The Canadian manufacturer annually supplies CECOM with millions of dollars of electronic components for use in communication systems.

The new Blue Ribbon Program recognizes CECOM supplier companies who achieve at least 90 per cent on-time delivery and no more than two quality defects over a year's time period. Over the past year, Varian Canada Microwave Division, which is the only contractor to be selected so far, realized zero defects and 95 per cent on-time delivery in filling CECOM orders for electron tubes, according to Colonel Joel Levansson, director of procurement for CECOM.

As described by Levansson, the program is designed to provide incentives for those contractors who meet the stringent criteria. "By being identified as a blue ribbon contractor, Varian Canada Microwave Division will be awarded a contract if it is within 10 per cent of the low bid on any program within the electron tube federal supply class," he explains.

Levansson notes that the U.S. Army expects the program to operate significant cost savings through reductions in late deliveries, scrapped parts, and rework of defective parts.

"We are very proud to be the first to receive this honor," says Varian Canada Microwave Division General Manager O. Joseph

Caldarelli. "The award carries special significance," he adds, "because the microwave products we manufacture and supply are extremely complex, making zero defects and on-time delivery especially difficult to achieve."

According to Caldarelli, Varian has implemented a companywide program focused on a strong quality

orientation, which emphasizes the importance of on-time delivery and zero defect performance.

Varian Canada Microwave Division is a supplier of power supplies, microwave subsystems, klystrons, traveling-wave tubes, and millimeter-wave microwave tubes for communication and radar applications in Canadian and world

markets. The division has been a CECOM supplier since early 1980's.

CECOM is the U.S. Army's focal point for research, development and acquisition of tactical communication electronics equipment. Headquartered at Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey, CECOM provides the full spectrum of management services to support these programs.



Varian Canada Microwave Division of Georgetown was the recipient of the Blue Ribbon Contractor Award, presented by the US Army Communication Electronics Command. Seen here at the presentation are, from left, O. Joe Caldarelli, General Manager, Varian; Steve Leonard, Senior Tester/Leadhand, Varian; Vincent J. Battaglia, President Electron Device and Systems Group, Varian Associates; and Major General Billy Thomas, commanding officer, CECOM. (Photo submitted)

Optimists to Cancer Society



The Optimist Club of Georgetown made two special cheque presentations recently to assist the work of the Cancer Society. The Optimists operated food booths at the Strawberry and Symphony Festival hosted by Dominion Seed House, and the Classics Against Cancer Car Show, both held in June. As a result of their efforts, cheques of \$1,500

each were presented to the organizers. Above, Optimist president Doug Starret presents a cheque to Steamer Emerson, organizer of the Dominion Seed House garden party, and below, Mr. Starret presents a cheque to Neil Young, organizer of the Classics Against Cancer Car Show. (Photos submitted)

CVCA considers user fees

The Credit Valley Conservation Authority is considering implementing user fees for processing applications for fill, construction and alteration to lands located in the watershed.

The idea of user fees has been banded about before by the authority, said General Manager

Vicki Barron.

The discussions were prompted by underfunding especially from the province, and by insufficient revenue generation, said Ms. Barron.

Two other nearby authorities have such processing fees but 19 others are opposed to it she said.

Recent rains help, but....

It may be too little, too late

By DONNA KELL
Herald Staff

The rain fell too late in Halton Hills to seriously improve crops, according to Halton Hills' farmers.

"The rain was a good three full weeks late. The crops matured before the rain came," said Corn Producers of Ontario president Frank Anthony, a Limehouse farmer.

The eight inches of rain that fell since July 9 helped, but "the ground is still dry and the moisture drained out of the soil," said Ashgrove farmer Murray Brownridge. Mr. Brownridge added that he "had never seen the ground so dry."

"A lot depends on if we get another decent rain, but at this stage we're looking at a 30 to 40 per cent reduction in corn yields."

Frank Anthony's Limehouse farm will produce only half its normal hay yield and the predicted wheat crop is 80 per cent while corn and bean yields will be down to about 75 per cent of the normal crop, said Mr. Anthony.

The corn and beans have been set back two to three weeks, he said, ad-

ding that the next critical point will be at harvest time.

"If it rains (in August) it's going to help, but the most critical thing right now is for the corn and beans to have a frost-free September," he said. Spring crops are already fully matured, he said.

Bill Lasby, a farmer on the Anthony property, said despite the decreased yield this year, corn and beans have flourished in the recent rain. "We've got corn that we estimate has grown three feet in the last three weeks," he said.

But variation of plant maturity is a problem for harvesting. Corn plants are tasselling at different times. "With 2,800 acres of corn it takes a long time to harvest," said Mr. Lasby. "The timing of the rain is the biggest thing. We've got two problems. We're looking at reduced yields and the timing of the harvest, which could begin October 15 instead of September 15."

Mr. Lasby added that he hopes for a frost-free September, but said there is usually a "killing frost."

"Overall, we're going to have a

reduced yield," said Mr. Lasby. But Halton Hills is luckier than some areas, said Frank Anthony, describing Halton as an "oasis." Simcoe County received only a half inch of rain in July and Lambton, Essex and Middlesex counties received virtually no precipitation, said Mr. Anthony last week.

Although the rain came after the growing season Mr. Brownridge said he hoped for continued precipitation to boost the height of corn, which is now tasselling. Tasselling, which normally takes a few days, is taking two to three weeks this year, said Mr. Lasby.

A meeting with local farmers and the federal and provincial agricultural ministers to review crop losses has been postponed.

Jack Riddell, the Ontario Minister of Agriculture and Food, and John Wise, Federal Agricultural Minister were scheduled to meet with regional farmers in Guelph last week, said Mr. Lasby. The meeting will probably take place in the fall, giving the ministers more time to review, he said.

Bell talks remain in stalemate

Mathews, Media Affairs Manager for Bell Canada, Ontario.

"More than 90 per cent of long distance calls are direct-dialed," he said, adding that management is working 60-hour weeks to continue the 411 service.

Bell Canada and CWC members refuse to budge in their projected three-year agreement. Bell offered workers increases of five per cent, 4.5 per cent and 4.25 per cent for the next three years, retroactive to December, 1987, when the last agreement expired.

In a May 25 vote, the union turned down Bell's offer, asking instead for increases of 8.5 per cent for 1988 and 6.75 per cent and for 1989 and 1990. Bell refused to respond to their proposal, said Mr. Mortimer of Local 26.

"They say they're ready for open dialogue, but we don't think their negotiation methods are 'open,'" he said, referring to the advertisements appearing in last week's Toronto Star which said Bell wanted to communicate with its employees. But "their idea of dialogue is not our idea of collective bargaining," said Mr. Mortimer.

"Where were they when we were ready to negotiate through the weekend before the strike," he said.

The CWC has nine major complaints, with their employer, said Mr. Mortimer.

The union's complaints include contracting out of jobs formerly allocated to Bell workers. "These are jobs we can do," said Mr. Mortimer. The CWC also wants to see the 1,500 part-time employees across the Toronto-Oshawa area receive some job security. They number over 25 per cent of total employees, said Mr. Mortimer.

Operators in the union want less hours, and 15-year employees, over 50 per cent of Bell workers, are asking for five weeks annual vacation.

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