

BOB HERENDEEN

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After moving to the Bay area in September, 1969 and being involved with injection lasers, LED wafer fab, CO2 laser modulators and the secret "Blue Project", I joined Litronix in November 1972.

My first job at Litronix was as a product engineer for LED displays, which were at that time aimed at the watch and calculator business. Almost immediately I was introduced to the world of off shore assembly in Singapore and Penang and soon, the Indian Ocean island of Mauritius. That's a big change for an engineer from Indiana.

Through the time at Litronix I was involved with all of the opto products, successfully avoiding the consumer product business and became Engineering Manager and later Director of Engineering with the acquisition by Siemens.

Litronix later disappeared and it became Siemens Opto and I was both the Director of Engineering and the Business Unit Manager for Custom Products in a complex matrix organization until Siemens spun off the semiconductor business by creating Infineon, who later split off the opto business and sold the visible business to Osram and the non visible business to Vishay Intertechnologies (owner of Siliconix, Dale, Sprague, General Semiconductor and Telefunken and others) where I continued as the Director of Engineering for optocouplers until retirement in 2005.

Since retirement I have been doing some consulting, playing drums in various jazz groups, maintaining the model trains at the children's hospital at Stanford and doing restoration and repair of old ham radio equipment.



Bob Herendeen (2004)