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I joined Monsanto in late 1959 initially working in the engineering department. After working there a few months I was called to help solve some problems with German (Siemens) Zone-Refiners in the new Silicon factory the company just opened in St. Charles, a few miles away from the headquarters in St. Louis.

Starting and operating silicon wafer manufacturing facilities became the primary focus of my career with Monsanto while assuming operating responsibilities in Gent Belgium, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and later in Japan.

It was during the time in Malaysia that I became involved with Opto Electronics operations. This was the beginning stage of Off-Shore Electronics manufacturing and managing facilities employing many hundreds of young workers, both in Malaysia and in Indonesia (Jakarta) was a new frontier for Monsanto.

I retired from Monsanto in 1989 after completing two, 2 Year assignments in Japan to build, start-up and manage silicon operations there.

Being part of the Silicon Wafer Industry, and for a time also LEDs, witnessing the growth in volume and wafer sizes diameter, from 150 MM in 1960 to 300 MM today (and soon 450 MM) was a most interesting career experience.

