

5 Decades of Modern Office Methods

A Family-Owned Robert J. McCarthy was raised on a hid during the depth of the Great Depress been very wealthy but he has been very

Robert J. McCarthy was raised on a hill farm in Washington County, Ohio, during the depth of the Great Depression. He maintains that he has never been very wealthy but he has been very poor; but not hungry, because his family raised their own food. He was very fortunate to have received an excellent education from St. Charles College in Columbus, Ohio. This excellent education enabled him to receive an officer's commission in the Navy before entering service in World War II. He served on a destroyer in the Pacific and when he was separated from the service in 1946 he settled in Columbus.

After an interim job with the Veteran's Administration, he was recruited by a business machine company in 1948 and sold products in central Ohio, then transferred to Dayton in 1953 where he was introduced to a novel, emerging technology – the all electric, all dry Thermo-Fax copier. This was several years BX (before Xerox).

Seeing the potential in the Thermo-Fax and its supply business, he applied for a dealership in 1957 and was awarded the closest one to home, Evansville, Indiana.

It should be noted that the dealerships were and still are exclusive to a given territory.

They become available only when a dealer wants to sell or dies. McCarthy accepted the challenge of the Evansville dealership.

Today MOM is recognized as a 1st class leader in TOTAL DOCUMENT SOLUTIONS.

Now let's look at the past 50 years . . .

ur Mission: To be recognized in our markets as the "Prefered Provider" of office solutions dedicated to Total Client Satisfaction.

The McCarthy Family





Molly: Joined MOM shortly after graduation from University of Dayton with a B.A. degree. She served in several positions and ended up as Sr. V.P. of Human Resources and retired in 2004 after 30 years.

Kathy and her husband, Rick Maxwell: Joined MOM after they graduated from University of Dayton and served in several positions including three years as Manager of Nashville and Corporate V.P. of Sales. In 1985 Rick became President and C.O.O. until 1995 when the southern three dealerships were split off for them as MOM South.

Kevin: Graduated from Miami University with a B.S. in 1979 and spent three years in Seattle, Washington (mecca for youth) in a national sales position. He returned to join MOM as Lease Coordinator and moved up thru the Company to become President and C.O.O. in 1995 and C.E.O. in 1998.

Steve Bandy, son-in-law: Joined MOM in 1996 after a successful sales and marketing career with Reebok to become V.P. of Marketing for MOM.

On December 7, 1957, Bob McCarthy made the trip to Evansville, Indiana, to acquire the dealership from an office supply company, which could see no future in the business. The regional manager of the 3M Thermo-fax division and the dealer representative of the 3M company accompanied him.

McCarthy, along with his wife, had committed all of their available assets including the equity in their home, his wife's war bonds that she had saved from WWII, and any other cash that was available to the business. Therefore, they ended up renting the only house available in Evansville and moved from Dayton to Evansville with their four small children the last week of February 1958. (Kevin was 9 months old.)

When Paducah was assigned to MOM in 1958, he was able to recruit an excellent P&G salesman who started working out of his home and did a fantastic job developing the Paducah marketplace where they ended up with three other salesmen.

Within a few months they had rented office space in Paducah and within two years had built their own building. Between Evansville and Paducah, they were placing forty to fifty machines per month on a regular basis. It ended up that McCarthy stayed two and a half years in Evansville, moving to Cincinnati in the summer of 1960. After moving to Cincinnati, McCarthy continued to spend his full time working with Evansville and Paducah and commuting there frequently.

Early in 1963, McCarthy had met with the owner of the Topeka, Kansas's dealership on a couple of occasions and had visited with him in an attempt to buy his business, which supposedly was for sale. He did not sell, but died suddenly in September of 1963.

Within a few weeks, 3M checked with McCarthy to see if he would be interested in buying the dealership since he had talked with the previous owner. (It was on another day of infamy – the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.) The answer was "yes."

McCarthy reported to Topeka, Kansas, on January 2 with his accountant to work out the details and purchase the Thermo-Fax business of Topeka, Kansas.

McCarthy spent about ten days in Topeka trying to get all of the details taken care of and he transferred the manager from Paducah to Topeka as a minority owner of the business.

McCarthy had returned to Cincinnati only one day when he received a phone call in the middle of the night that the co-owner/manager, 38 years old, had dropped dead in the office at about 11:00 p.m.! McCarthy then recruited an excellent sales manager from Ft. Wayne, Indiana to replace the recently deceased manager in Topeka, an excellent choice for success.

the completely electric THERMO-FAX Copying Machine gives you PERFECTLY DRY 1958 - First Sales Team: Robert McCarthy, Bob es in just 4 seconds! Johnson, Harold Derrington, and Bernie Falk Cleanest, Simplest to Use No Muss, No Fuss No Time Wasted

we knew how to promote!

First Business Product Show

1965 - Evansville, IN Sales Team Locations We knew how to promote! 1959 -1958 - Grand Opening of Paducah, KY Office

Business continued to progress rapidly in all three markets and then in 1967, 3M made the decision to cancel the Visual Products dealer in Nashville, Tennessee. Visual Products had become part of the office products line for 3M so it was a matter of either MOM or 3M taking it over. McCarthy agreed to acquire the franchise. With no other dealerships becoming available, it became a period of internal growth. During this decade the 3M Business Products Division became Harris 3M.

Nashville, TN Office

This all lead to the beginning of Decade 3.

1982 The dealer/owner of all of the state of Alabama plus the panhandle of Florida declared his desire to sell and get out of business. McCarthy was approached by 3M as being the only dealer that they would contact or consider in taking over this territory. Again, to make a long story short, McCarthy negotiated the purchase of the \$10 million Rollings Inc. in the fall of 1982. One of the conditions of the purchase was that Modern Office Methods take over within ten days. The buyer and seller arrived at a purchase formula and left the details up to the accountants and lawyers. While Modern Office Methods was in the midst of the physical transition, the owner died and Modern Office Methods had to work out the rest of the details with the estate.

1983 3M got out of its direct sales of the office products and Modern Office Methods acquired Knoxville, Tennessee, which tied in geographically with the Nashville and Alabama territories.

This is Modern Office Methods Inc.'s new be W. 29th, which will open officially Monday cutting ceremony at 4 p.m. The company is

Modern Office **Opening Slated**

4 p.m. Monday will mark the official opening of Modern Office

ashington, D.C., will be pre

20th Anniversary ribbon cutting celebration

for the new Evansville, IN Office.





July 5, 1977

SUBJECT: 3M DEALER ACHIEVEMENTS AND AWARDS

hroughout our twenty years as a dealer for 3M business products, Modern Office Methods has enjoyed as much or more recognition

membering that we started from dead zero in December, 1957, the time one year had passed we had sufficient momentum that 1959 we were awarded the "President's Cup". This was the ighest achievement among all dealers in the country of a similar

e dealers themselves had established a recognition program to nor their peers for outstanding performance. This was known as the "Turtle Club" with the theme that "he makes progress only when his neck is out!. My peers honored me with this award in 1960. By the time this club disappeared from existence a few ears later, there were only approximately twenty-five members

years ago 3M established the "Advisory Council for Management" recognize their ten most outstanding dealers each year. We have fortunate enough to have a seat on the Advisory Council five

coximately ten years ago the Duplicating Products Division formed Pro Am Leagues" in which the six top dealerships are recognized tending the Bing Crosby Pro Am at Pebble Beach (3M sponsors tournament). We have had this award three times.

years ago the Microfilm Products Division established the Corps D'Elite to recognize each dealer on an annual basis who achieves a list of demanding criteria and exceptionally good sales performance.

These are a few of the achievements we have been able to make in

The last time I saw the 3M Chairman of the Board he referred to me

1984 The 3M Copy Products dealer in Nashville wanted to exit the business. Modern Office Methods negotiated the purchase of the franchise from them, which complimented the audiovisual products that they were already handling.

Harold Morris, who had been with MOM for twenty-four years and had risen from a clerk in Evansville to president/chief operating officer, decided that he wanted to move on and buy a dealership of his own. McCarthy put him into a state of shock when he asked Morris if he would like to purchase the Topeka, Kansas, franchise which he quickly did. After the departure of Morris, Rick Maxwell, McCarthy's son-in-law and a five-year veteran of the company, was made president and chief operating officer. Molly and Kevin McCarthy, also seasoned in the business, were made vice presidents and the transition to the second generation was underway.

1986 McCarthy was able to negotiate with the chairman and chief executive officer of Harris/3M the sale of all of the Alabama territory plus Pensacola and Knoxville to be purchased by Harris/3M. Modern Office Methods, in turn, would purchase Cincinnati and Columbus, Ohio from Harris/3M. This was finalized on December 31, 1986. By January 2, Modern Office Methods started operating the Cincinnati and Columbus offices which were of equal market potential and all within two hours driving time – no aircraft required. As McCarthy always said, "It took thirty years to put together the kind of territory and geography that he dreamed of." McCarthy was finally selling something in his own "backyard." With all the realignment being made, it made sense for Modern Office Methods to sell Paducah, Kentucky. It was sold to Larry Williams, who had been a 25-year employee in Paducah, Kentucky, and it made a fine arrangement for that gentleman. This sale made the sixth or seventh employee that McCarthy had directly or indirectly put into the business for himself.



obert J. McCarthy is chairman of Modern Office Methods. The Bit Ash company is celebrating 30 years in business.

Dream of ex-salesman comes true: Blue Ash firm scores with copiers

cCarthy, a Dayton, Ohio, office equipment salesman, saw a copying machine called hermo-Fax and started to eam about the future.

While it wasn't generally cognized, the days of dependence on carbon paper were

McCarthy obtained a franise from the manufactures M Co., to sell Thermo-Fax in ansville, Ind. And, as he re-

Copier sales totaled about sales are running above \$10 ployees in the Evansville Nashville, Tenn., Columbus offices and at corporate headquarters, 4362 Creek Road.

one copy on what looked like The Post.



four seconds-when every thing went right."

out 70 copies a minute. It can collate, bind "and hand it i you," McCarthy said.

ffice Methods Inc. in Blue ods is an authorized Harris/3h Ash, he said that "it went far copy products dealership ; eyond my dreams. It's a huge the result of 3M's joint vent ndustry now and I got in at with the Harris Corp. of Mel-

\$200,000 in the first year, maintains more than 15,000 accounts, including most mi Jor businesses and governments in each of its markets.

umn are welcome. Please sen The early Thermo-Fax was cinnati Post, 125 E. Court & the only copier on the market. Cincinnati, Ohio 45302. Gord McCarthy said. "It would make is a contributing writer



regarded as a leader in its field and serves thousands of customers as one of the largest dealers in the



Evansville, IN - MOM staff and

truck fleet.

newsletter to help you attain maximum efficiency in your office operation.

Our 30th Anniversary

30 Years In The Copying Business

30 Years As Authorized 3M Dealer

30 Years Serving 15,000 Customers

During our big year we will provide enough paper and supplies for our customers to make over 200,000,000 Thermo-Fax machine ing good in 1957 when the total

A lot of interesting and important things have happened in the world since the day in 1957, when tounder tourised his desire to go in business for himself.

HARRIS/3M

Former Mariettan's company celebrates 30 years' business

Marietta was a good start for Bob McCarthy. His first job was picking strawberries for a penny a quart for his father's farm in Marietta. He now is the owner of Modern Office Methods, which is celebrating its 30th anniversary as one of the largest Harris/3M dealers in the country.

When McCarthy started his copying business in 1957 with a dealership in Evansville, Ind., the copying machine was still an infant. Most people would ask why they needed a copier when they had carbon paper, McCarthy said.

Now Modern Office Methods serves thousands of customers with offices in Nashville, Tenn.; Evansville, Ind.; and Cincinnati and Columbus. We're Celebrating

office keys over to Harold Morris.

Topeka, KS - Robert McCarthy handing the



MOM's commuter airplane for traveling to distant offices in the 1980s.

Big Savings To Celebrate Our 30th Anniversary

Light a candle and celebrate our Joh Anniversity along with us. There will be many exciting events happening this December to mark this milestone. Thirty percent of nark this milestone. Thirty percent of on service contracts thirty percent off on service contracts states kits Thirty percent off on supply accessories! Big savings on equipment! Look brough this newsletter for all the bottomies. And ask your Modern Office
And ask your Modern Office
And state of the bargains
And the bar

Archard B. Myland

1980 - Robert & Margie McCarthy's trip to the Great Wall of China.

1988 By this time, Harris/3M had evolved into the Lanier Company and the Lanier dealer in Dayton, Ohio, wanted to exit the franchise. He was released and Modern Office Methods acquired it.

The dealer in Louisville and Lexington, Kentucky, was ill and needed to remove himself from the business. Rick Maxwell negotiated the purchase of those two markets, which ties in geographically with all the rest and gave Modern Office Methods a contiguous marketplace from Lake Erie down through Columbus, Dayton, Cincinnati, Louisville, Lexington, Evansville, and Nashville to the Alabama border. This territory consists of 207 counties.

Like many family businesses, MOM became too small for everybody. To accommodate, the "villes"- Louisville, Evansville, Nashville - were split off for daughter, Kathy, and her husband, Rick Maxwell.

Kevin McCarthy became President/C.O.O.

Purchased CEI Business Systems in Columbus adding several hundred clients. Modern Office Methods

SPECIAL ISSUEI

Modern Office Methods and

Lanier Sweep Awards!

Modern Office Methods Of Kansas Inc. **Everything for the Modern Office**

May 1, 1995

Mr. Bob McCarthy 8505 Camargo Road Cincinnati, OH 45243-1407

I couldn't just send this last check without sending you a note thanking you again for all the opportunities you gave me over the past 34 years, especially the opportunity to buy Topeka. It is hard to believe that ten years has gone by since I left Cincinnati and moved

Bob, over the years you were able to hire, train and give opportunities to a great many fin individuals. You have left a great legacy of accomplishment both for yourself and for those who have worked for you over the years.

We all certainly worked hard when it was time to work and we did play hard in those times when it was time to play. Things haven't changed since the old days. It's still tr that the harder you work, the luckier you are.

Bob, even though I won't be sending you a check each month, I still welcome you anytime. Gene and I are going to try to put together an outing this summer of so old employees and hopefully we can get you and Margie to come out. We'll ker informed.

Thanks again,



Purchased AOS Konica Minolta, a large established dealer in Cincinnati. Again adding a large group of clients.

Acquired Lanier duplicator business in Columbus.

MOM established the Pure Water Technology Division to provide filtered and purified water to office environments for pennies per serving rather than expensive bottles.

2007 - 50th Year

There are now two happy, successful, sister companies exceeding \$50 million in annual sales with optimism for Decade Six.

What a wonderful and satisfying experience for a salesman at age 38 to found and develop a business products company from ground zero to one of the largest in the country and live to see its 50th year with two successful sister companies owned and operated by the 2nd generation.

I thank God every day for this wonderful blessing that supports hundreds of people – associates, employees, and families. But, what really makes it work is the wonderful spirit of interdependency between the company, the employees, and the clients.

Cincinnati, OH - Blue Ash Corporate Headquarters

THE 2004 TRI-STATE FAMILY BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Minolta, Riso, and Panasonic. Founded

eners, and digital duplicators from lead

mem

Cincinnati, OH - Blue Ash

Distribution Center

in 1957, MOM is recognized as the nations

lients throughout Ohio with offices in Cin-

Modern Office Methods amily leadership. Robert J. McCarthy is he founder of MOM. Kevin McCarthy. MOM President and CEO, is Robert McCarthy's son. Robert's daughter Molly serves as the company's Senior Vice President of Physical and Human Resources, and son-in-law Steve Bandy is Senior Vice sident of Marketing for MOM.

MOM prides itself on its outstanding Unions World Class Service Award for vice excellence every year since 1987. The Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Comnerce also tramed MOM the 2000 Small

liffeernce" - is MOM's motto. MOM sets iding the best service in the dustry to its clients. "Our clients know bey can always count on MOM for the Sevin McCarthy. MOM acquired Advanced Office

tems (AOS), a Cincinnati-based dealer of Konica Minolta digital copiers and asonic fax products in December 2003. This allows MOM's market share serve as a growth platform and allows us to increase the level of service and of ferings to our client base. With the AOS acquisition, the size of the company has proximately \$30,000,000. "The only constant is change," says

WINNER

Kevin McCarthy. And sare enough MOM has seen and been a part of many shout the last 47 years. This year in particular is a big year not ly with the recent acquinition of AOS but also the move of MOM's corporate anati branch offices to the new "MOM" building located at the corner of Reed Hartman Highway and Pfeiffer Road. As of the first of August, MOM is located at 4747 Lake Forest Drive. and floor. This new office houses all the corporate offices and Cincinnati sa tram and AOS. It is an impressive build ing that will allow MOM to showcase

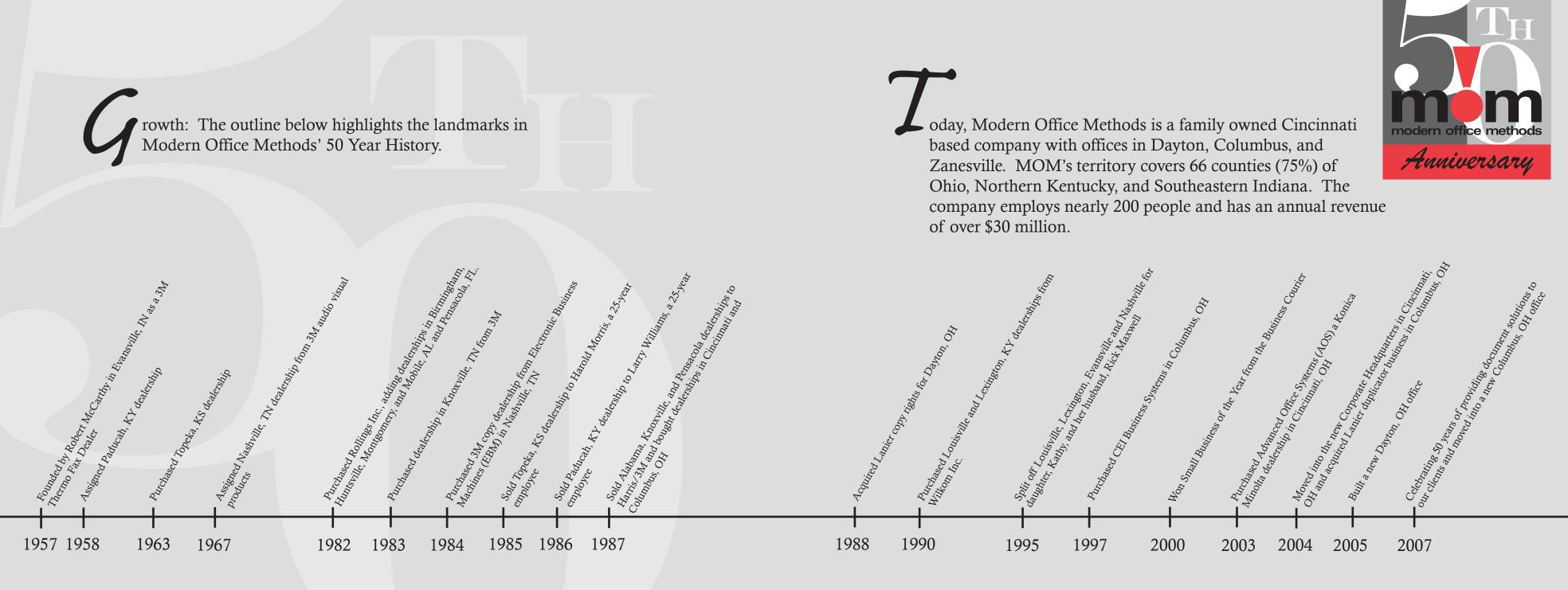
and constant improvement have kept them ranked as the #1 Lanier dealer nationally and a proud recipient of award





Columbus, OH - Westerville Office

Dayton, OH - Centerville Office



The Modern Office Methods'

Territory





Cincinnati / Blue Ash Corporate Headquarters 4747 Lake Forest Drive Cincinnati, OH 45242 Phone: 513.791.0909 Fax: 513.791.0985

Cincinnati / Blue Ash Distribution Center 4750 Cornell Road Cincinnati, OH 45241 Phone: 513.791.0909 Fax: 513.791.0985

Dayton / Centerville Office 7475 Paragon Road Dayton, OH 45459 Phone: 937.436.2295 Fax: 937.436.1747

Columbus / Westerville Office 929 East Wind Drive Suite 220 Westerville, OH 43081

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