



Alexander Annin begins supplying flags from his ship's chandlery on the NYC waterfront

1851

1820

Annin is awarded the honor of supplying the flags for Queen Victoria and Prince Albert's Great Exhibition in London Annin supplies all the flags for the Union troops during the American Civil War

1861-1865

1892

The Pledge of Allegiance was first published in a magazine "The Youth's Companion"

The American flag was scarcely 70 years old in 1847 when Alexander Annin founded Annin Flagmakers on Fulton Street in New York City. Alexander Annin had been sewing flags and supplying them to merchant ships from his sail-making shop on the New York City waterfront as far back as 1820. There, the company prospered and grew along with our nation.



In 1865 Annin Flagmakers experienced its first big surge in business when the Civil War ignited the fires of patriotism in the American populace. This was the first time in America's history that private citizens purchased American flags in significant numbers to display on their homes.

In 1910 Annin Flagmakers relocated to 5th Avenue and 16th Street, a location that later came to be known as "Old Glory Corner". Increased demand for American flags coincided with our country's industrial revolution in the latter part of the 19th Century. Annin Flagmakers on the forefront of technology, then as it is today, made the sewing machine, invented in 1846, a standard piece of flag-making equipment.

Demand for U.S. flags boomed again in 1917 with our involvement in World War I and it was during this time that Annin Flagmakers built its flagship plant in Verona, NJ.



The new facility was fully modernized for its time, with all of the latest equipment and a dedicated and skilled workforce. Brand new machines, such as mechanized die-cutters for stamping out stars, were invented specifically to automate the flag-making process and were installed at the Verona plant. Assembly lines, popularized by Henry Ford, were also set up to increase



efficiencies. The management of Annin Flagmakers made certain that the methods of production in their factories kept pace with 20th Century progress.



Historically, the domestic political climate and world events have affected U.S. flag sales in a way that is unique compared with other products. While sales of American flags dipped during the depression years, they rose again during the patriotic fervor of World War II. The addition of the new states of Alaska and Hawaii in 1959 generated an avalanche of orders from Americans who wanted to replace their outdated forty-eight star U.S. flags with the new fifty-star version. The anti-Vietnam War sentiment during the turbulent period of the late sixties and early seventies made those years lean ones for U.S. flag sales but America's Bicentennial in 1976 brought Old Glory back stronger than ever.

EVOLUTION OF ANNIN FLAGMAKERS' LOGO

Mid 1800's



Late 1800's



1800's ~ 1900's



1956





Commander Robert E. Peary carries Annin-made flags to the North Pole

1919

Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd carries Annin-made flags to the South Pole

1930

Alaska & Hawaii become states and the 50-star flag is introduced

Annin completes its flagship plant in Verona, New Jersey

An Annin flag is the first flag flown on Mount Suribachi at the battle of Iwo Jima

1945



Annin Flagmakers grew both in physical size and in production capacity in the last twenty-five years of the 20th Century. Annin purchased competitive flag companies Colonial Flag Company of Coshocton, Ohio in 1975 and Dettra Flag Company of Oaks, Pennsylvania in 1998.



Dettra Flag Company had been Annin's largest commercial competitor since its inception in 1902. By mid-twentieth century, Annin Flagmakers had become known as the premier flag maker in the United States. It had the best quality products, broadest product line, best-known brand, largest inventory, best service, highest fill rates and the greatest production capacity in the industry.

The patriotic fervor that gripped the people of the United States after the tragic events of September 11, 2001 led to an unprecedented demand for American flags. Orders poured in for quantities of U.S. flags that were twenty times that of normal. Annin Flagmakers rose to the occasion and dramatically increased production.

In 2005, Annin Flagmakers joined with other domestic flag manufacturing companies and became a founding member of the Flag Manufacturers Association of America (FMAA). This industry organization is dedicated to promoting the manufacture of U.S. Flags in America.

Today, Annin prides itself on embracing the best technology has to offer using state of the art SAP ERP business systems that are integrated with AGILE and EDI. This offers customers improved service through best in class forecasting, purchasing and production planning, allowing for same day shipments on most orders. Annin's customers can place orders via EDI, online via our customer web portal, fax, email or direct with our professional and seasoned customer service representatives.

In Annin's two largest domestic factories, South Boston, Virginia and Coshocton, Ohio, U.S. flags are manufactured from domestic fabrics which are dyed in-house. The blue fields are embroidered with stars by state-of-the-art Epoca embroidery machines at Annin's Star Fields facility in Cobbs Creek, Virginia then distributed to the South Boston and Coshocton factories. There the red stripes, white stripes and star fields are stitched together with advanced cellular production techniques.



1959

The state, international and custom flags are digitally screen-dyed in our South Boston facility to exact color specifications; the on-site research and development testing laboratories are constantly monitoring dye formulas to insure color accuracy. Each flag is inspected by our quality control department as it is being packed and added to our inventory of over 3,500 unique products.



1968





1981

1991



Present Day



1906

Annin is named official supplier to the **U.S. Bicentennial**

1981



2001





Annin Flagmakers is privately owned by the Beard and Dennis families and managed by a professional management team, including two active sixth-generation family members, Carter Beard, President & CEO and Sandy Dennis Van Lieu, Senior Vice President. Annin employs over 500 people year-round, many of whom have over twenty to thirty years of experience with the company.



THE 21ST CENTURY LOOKING FORWARD

Annin Flagmakers plans to extend its flag-making tradition well into the 21st Century and is committed to expanding and upgrading its manufacturing and distribution capabilities. With promises to its customers to make the best quality products and to offer the best levels of service, Annin Flagmakers anticipates retaining its position as America's largest manufacturer and distributor of U.S. flags for the indefinite future.



Roseland, NJ • Annin Flagmakers' Corporate Headquaters



Coshocton, OH • Production Facility • 150,000 square feet



South Boston, VA • Production Facility • 180,000 square feet



Cobbs Creek, VA • Production Facility • 40,000 square feet

