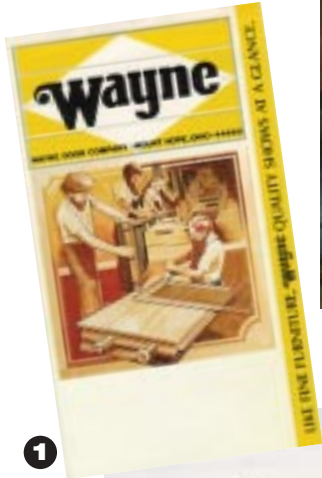


FROM THE PAGES OF
HISTORY

Wayne-Dalton Corp.



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Photos

1. Wayne Door brochure, 1962.
2. Willis Mullet, 2002.
3. This 1985 photo shows the company's first plant from 1954 (left).
4. The new corporate headquarters in Mt. Hope, 1992.
5. Today's logo.

Source

Wayne-Dalton marketing department

Editor's Note: In 2004, Wayne-Dalton marks its 50th year. In this issue, we provide a sketch of the history of this industry leader.

Milestones

- 1954 ▶ Emanuel Mullet buys a small garage door business from Ervin Hostetler in Mt. Eaton, Ohio, in Wayne County and moves it to a small building in nearby Mt. Hope.
- 1956 ▶ Wayne Door, as it was then known, assembles wood residential doors using sections from Wisconsin.
- 1959 ▶ The company builds its first production building in Mt. Hope.
- 1962 ▶ With eight Amish workers, Wayne Door begins to manufacture its own sections.
- 1965 ▶ Willis Mullet, Emanuel's son, becomes president of the company.
- 1967 ▶ Wood flush doors are added. Wayne Door owns one semi and one straight truck.
- 1973 ▶ Willis Mullet starts a new plant, Dalton International, to produce commercial wood and steel doors in nearby Dalton, Ohio.
- 1978 ▶ Spurred by the energy crunch of 1973, Wayne Door builds a new plant in Mt. Hope to develop an insulated garage door.
- 1981 ▶ The new line begins making Thermowayne insulated residential doors and Thermospan insulated commercial doors, both with unique built-in struts and high R-values.
- 1982 ▶ Wayne Door and Dalton International merge to create the Wayne-Dalton Corp. with Willis Mullet as chairman of the board.
- 1983 ▶ The company acquires North American Door in Lindenhurst, N.Y., and Crawford Door Products in Century, Fla. North American produces rolling steel doors and grilles; Crawford makes commercial and residential sectional doors.
- 1985 ▶ A new plant is built in Pensacola, Fla., to produce the new Foamcore insulated steel garage door. Foamcore becomes the largest brand-name garage door sold in the U.S.
- 1985 ▶ The firm acquires Door Systems of Marietta, Ga., a producer of mini storage doors. Door Systems is later relocated to Trail, Ohio.
- 1989 ▶ Thomas "Bert" Bennett III joins the company as president. Glass City Springs of Toledo, Ohio, is merged into Wayne-Dalton.
- 1990 ▶ Wayne-Dalton acquires the Kinnear Division of the Harsco Corp. Kinnear manufactures sectional and rolling doors.
- 1992 ▶ A new 50,000-sq.-ft. corporate headquarters is completed in Mt. Hope, 200 yds. from the original spot where Emanuel first began making doors.
- 1992 ▶ Plycraft Plastics in Conneaut, Ohio, is acquired. The firm makes plastic window frames.
- 1994 ▶ The company introduces TorqueMaster, a revolutionary torsion spring system that encloses the springs in a tube. The springs are wound by a drill.
- 1994 ▶ Wayne-Dalton embarks on a national advertising campaign with Richard Karn of the #1 television program, "Home Improvement."
- 1994 ▶ The firm acquires Challenger, a New Jersey manufacturer of motorized openers, and Frantz Building Products, a manufacturer of sectional doors in Sterling, Ill.
- 1995 ▶ Major expansions at Mt. Hope and Pensacola bring total plant area to more than 2,000,000 square feet.
- 1996 ▶ The first doors with the WayneGard pinch-resistant design are sold.
- 1997 ▶ Wayne-Dalton introduces the Quantum garage door opener with the industry's first wireless photo eyes and wall station.
- 1998 ▶ The company wins the Consumer Product Safety Commission Chairman's Award for advancing public safety.
- 1999 ▶ The firm unveils the DoorMaster opener with no rails. The battery-powered opener requires no photo eyes when installed with a pinch-resistant door.
- 2000 ▶ Wayne-Dalton unveils a new line of wood Carriage House doors.
- 2002 ▶ The company announces the idrive opener, which eliminates chains, belts, and rails. It is the first wall-mounted opener of its kind.