

1950s



Paul Zimmerer's sons design and build the first Zimmatic® center pivot.

1970s



The refined structural design of Zimmatic center pivots reduces the number of parts, which keeps costs down and simplifies system maintenance.



Paul Zimmerer starts a farm equipment business.

1960s



Zimmatic long span systems are introduced, replacing 10 towers with just seven, thus reducing wheel tracks and system costs.

Low-pressure center pivots, mobile pivots and corner systems take the fields, allowing growers to maximize their coverage.

1980s

50 years of

The year was 1955. Dwight D. Eisenhower was in the White House. The top-rated television show was *I Love Lucy*. And an enterprising man named Paul Zimmerer began a farm equipment business in the small town of Lindsay, Nebraska.

Zimmerer's initial product was the first successful irrigation towline for rough field terrain. His company would become synonymous with helping farmers conquer just such environments over the next five decades.

His sons, Arthur and Bernard, spent the next decade designing, developing and building the company's first mechanical move irrigation system. They christened it the Zimmatic.

Completed in 1969, the pivot was erected on Everett Nathan's farm near Newman Grove, Nebraska.

"People really thought it was something," Nathan recalled years later, mentioning that a neighbor "got so excited about it, he ended up with three."

Over the years, Zimmatic pivots would see a host of innovations.

In the 1970s, one of the most prominent was the introduction of the legendary Uni-Knuckle span connector. The sturdy but flexible device allowed Zimmatic systems to handle slopes of up to 30% pitch with little or no structural stress. This ability to cover rolling terrain earned the pivot the nickname "the hill climber." Over 30 years later, the Uni-Knuckle span connector is still found on every Zimmatic system.

The decade would also see the introduction of the external collector ring, which ensures continuous electrical power for each tower drive unit while reducing pumping costs, another feature still found on today's systems. The first Zimmatic corner system, mobile pivot and lateral system allowed the growers of that decade to maximize their field coverage and yield more per acre.

"Our mobile pivot system was a great advancement for farmers," said Charlie Meis, vice president of Engineering. "Prior to that point, they were losing yield on hundreds of acres every season."

Never content to rest on its laurels, the company rolled out several important innovations during the decade that followed.

Among these were the spur gear center drive, which increased efficiency, and improved structural design that reduced the number of parts.

In addition, the 1980s would see Lindsay's first step into the world of high technology by introducing the Remote Monitor and Alarm Control (R-MAC) system. The system used computer technology to allow off-site monitoring and system control.

This technical achievement would be further refined in the 1990s with the introduction of the Automated Irrigation Management System (AIMS) control panels. AIMS allowed for greater programming control and the addition of PC-based telemetry to make farming even more efficient.

In 2000, Lindsay created a separate division called GrowSmart. Designed to be the irrigation management technology leader, GrowSmart offers products ranging from control panels

Zimmatic pivots start "talking" with the Remote Monitor and Alarm Control (R-MAC) system, using computer technology.

1990s



Zimmatic irrigation systems feature a sophisticated use of electronics for time-saving remote control, monitoring, recordkeeping and planning.

FieldSENTRY® is an economical system for growers to have continuous monitoring of their irrigation systems via the internet, cell phone or PDA.

The MAXfield Custom corner introduces "SmartChip Technology", which learns the unique characteristics of a field, so that growers can design



The introduction of AIMS (Automated Irrigation Management System) control panels allows growers to precisely program water, fertilizer and chemical application – eliminating repeated trips to the fields.

2000s



a custom watering application schedule . . . resulting in more uniform watering for better yields and use of resources.

dependability

to field sensors to remote controls, telemetry products and injection systems. The FieldSENTRY system is a shining example of their work.

"Computer technology had spread to the farms," said Reece Andrews, product manager of GrowSmart Technology Products. "The precision we were able to achieve with AIMS and the Telemetry Network freed up a large amount of time that allowed growers to be working elsewhere on the farm when pivots moved on to the next crop."

A new articulated pivot called FieldPLUS was introduced, along with the intelligent corner system called the MAXfield Custom.

FieldPLUS allows irrigators to "bend" the pivot around obstacles to irrigate previously unreachable sections of land. MAXfield Custom uses patented mapping technology to create irrigation programs that are custom tailored to a grower's field, greatly reducing over and under watering.

Lindsay has always focused on strength and durability while pushing the boundaries of innovation.

"Our experts in intelligent water and plant nutrient management continue to study ways to better utilize natural resources," said Rick Parod, president and chief executive officer. "Each year, we spend thousands of hours researching different technologies and how they can help watering issues on the farm. We look forward to being the world's leader in irrigation technology in the next 50 years."

What was once a small operation, headquartered in the rural Midwest,

has grown to become a worldwide force in efficient irrigation solutions. Over 90,000 of Lindsay's Zimmatic systems irrigate over 11 million acres of crops in more than 90 countries, spread out over almost every continent of the globe. With production facilities in Europe, South America and South Africa, satisfied customers around the globe can do their job with the knowledge that they have the most dependable product out there.



Lindsay's first center pivot was built in 1969 and is still operating today.