

COMMERCIAL ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY

The electronics industry in the state has a number of traditional electronics producers including Vishay Sprague (capacitors, resistor networks, etc.), and Teradyne (printed circuit boards and other electronic components).

The major portion of the state's electronics and related industries are tied to aerospace/defence. These companies include General Electric, Jewell Electrical Instruments, Kollsman and Lockheed Sanders which is headquartered in Nashua and has 4800 employees corporate-wide. M/A Com, which at one time employed over 600 in New Hampshire, and was hoped to become a major instate employer, is one of many aerospace/defence companies to pull out of the state.

There have also been a number of changes in ownership of commercial electronics companies in New Hampshire, the largest being the recent purchase of GTE's electronic products facility in Hillsborough by Osram/Sylvania Inc. This sale also included GTE's Standish, Maine facility. There is limited foreign ownership of New Hampshire electronics companies. The only major foreign owner is Hawker-Siddeley-U.K., which owns Compton Moductec and Clarostat Manufacturing.

Relative to the six New England states' economic base, New Hampshire is a distant third to Massachusetts and Connecticut.

BUSINESS OVERVIEW

Like other New England states, Rhode Island retains a strong base in its traditional industries - jewelry (primarily costume), thread, yarn, lace and other specialty fabrics, and specialty housewares including tableware, flatware, drapery hardware, shades, etc.

Rhode Island, long a fishing and other traditional ocean industries (boat building, sail) state, has developed an active textile related chemicals industry with production of dyes, pigments and other textile finishing/treatment products. The largest of these companies is Hoechst Celanese.

Two additional companies have long been associated with Rhode Island - A.T. Cross (Cross Pens) and Stanley Bostitch (staples and stapling equipment).

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The commercial electronics industry includes some component manufacturers, Cherry Semiconductor (integrated circuits, semiconductors), Elmwood Stearns (thermal fuses),