

The Bendix E-Beam

*News from the Bendix Radio Foundation
working for the Preservation and Presentation
of the History of the Bendix Radio Division*

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Inaugural Issue of Bendix E-Beam

This is the first issue of the Bendix E-Beam, Bendix Radio Foundation's email newsletter. This newsletter will be published about every two weeks to keep former Bendix Radio employees and friends updated with news and events of the Bendix Radio Foundation. Please print and distribute the E-Beam to your non-Internet enabled Bendix friends, as we don't have snail-mail organized yet. To unsubscribe or to add additional employees' email addresses, send info to jwoodall@zyan.com.

Bendix/Museum Partnership Formed

In October 2000, five retired Bendix Radio employees met with representatives of the Baltimore Museum of Industry to discuss collecting and archiving Bendix historical records. Officials of the museum were eager to form an association for this purpose and enthusiastically agreed to enter into a partnership. In particular, Nancy Perlman, Director, Research Center & Archivist, was delighted to receive Bendix material, offered much encouragement and helpful suggestion for moving forward, and is regularly assisting our group.

At the November 2000 Luncheon of Retired Engineers, the concept was presented and a number of individuals pledged to donate their documents, photographs, reports along with other papers and memorabilia to the Museum. Other contributors are still sorting through their old records to collect and box their material. With support from the Museum and members of the Retired Engineers, critical mass was achieved and the "Bendix Radio Foundation" was formed with the expressed purpose of "facilitating the collecting, identifying, organizing and archiving all materials and artifacts relevant to the history of the Bendix Radio Division which operated over six decades in Baltimore from 1937 to 1998."

Operating as the Ad Hoc Committee of the Bendix Radio Foundation, the group has met regularly at the Museum since last fall to develop processes, procedures, and a structure into which the collection can be organized for research and exhibition. While the focus is on 'Bendix in Baltimore', the collection is also to include relevant Bendix Corporate and other Division's related historical material. The Foundation is accepting memoranda, brochures, posters, proposals, manuals, audio-visual materials, or artifacts such as components or hardware.

The collecting process is now underway and the progress will be reported in subsequent E-Beams. Please contribute any material you have collected and contact other former employees you may know to advertise the Foundation and seek contributions. If you are unsure about the value of an article, please do not throw it out, rather give it the Foundation or directly to the Museum. As the Museum is a non-profit organization, you qualify for an income tax deduction based on the value of contribution (your estimate, not the Museum's). The Museum's Website can be found at <http://www.thebmi.org>.

Bendix Radio Foundation Launches Website

The Foundation decided during formation that a Website would be an important asset to all aspects of its activities, particularly since former employees are so widely dispersed. With the cooperation of the Museum, the Foundation has created and launched its Website at www.thebmi.org/bendix. Please visit the site for more information on the Foundation, Museum, and several other Bendix related sites.

With the Website as with the Foundation's work as a whole, much progress has already been made. However, there remains a lot of interesting work to be accomplished. In the near future the Committee will be asking for volunteers to join the effort and assist with the cataloging process. You can provide the knowledge that will make it possible to identify and properly catalog the important collection of photographs and other material already collected!

To learn more about the Foundation please contact one of the Ad Hoc Committee members below or visit the web site at www.thebmi.org/bendix. We trust we can look forward to your cooperation and support to *preserve and display the history of Bendix in Baltimore*.

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