

## the business beat

## Scans Delivers Tester For Oldsmobile Engines

By W. W. EDGAR

Fifteen years of study and research reached a climax when Scans, Inc., builders of automatic testing equipment in Li-

von, delivered a million dollar facility to the GM's Oldsmobile plant in Lansing.

Officially known as a free-flowing automatic testing facility with air power, it is designed to test all the engines for the

Olds line of automobiles and do it at the rate of approximately 200 an hour.

It is a gigantic apparatus, computer controlled, that is about 40 feet in length, eight feet high and about eight feet wide.

It does its job very quietly. "This is new concept," Robert Clayton, Scans plant superintendent, pointed out. "While it doesn't handle more motors than now being tested in the Olds plant, we think it does a more satisfactory job."

He pointed out that the use of air eliminates the noise of a motor running on gasoline with spark plugs. "With the reduction of noise," he said, "we get a better chance to listen to the motor and that means a lot."

DONALD STOLZ, assistant chief engineer, pointed out that the facility is completely computerized and that one of the features is the automatic timing.

"We run the motors at 200, 500 and 1100 rpm's," he said, "and try to bring about the same demands that the motor will get on the road. And by running with air we get a much smoother minority."

Both Stolz and Clayton said that the idea for the automatic air test was conceived in the engine plant of the Chrysler Corp. on Detroit's east side 15 years ago, "and we've been at it ever since."

Both men beamed when they stated that many patents have been applied for. Thus far, none has been granted and they agreed that it takes quite a long time to get results from the U.S. Patent Office.

"But we're hoping," he said as the dismantling job began for the shipment of the facility to Lansing.

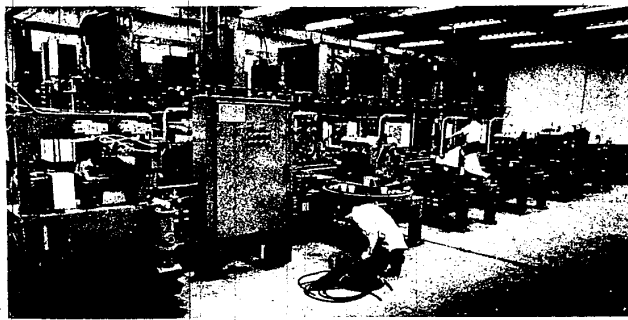
WHEN IT IS installed and put to use, Oldsmobile will have the first fully automatic testing machine for motors.

Buick Division has a manual scheme, but it hinted that all the companies will switch to the automatic air machine within the next few years.

"Our facility," the Scans officials stated, "takes the human element out of testing."

"It is a well known fact," they said, "that there are days when the human isn't up to par, and it is just possible that on those days something might be overlooked."

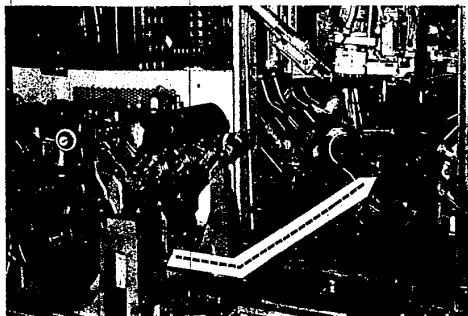
"But not with this free flowing computerized air testing facility. It is the same all the time."



LATEST THING IN MOTOR TESTING -- This is the new free floating computerized facility for testing of automobile motors with air. The idea, born 15 years ago

in the Chrysler plant, became a reality at Scans, Inc. in Livonia, and this week was shipped to the Oldsmobile plant in Lansing.

(Observer photo)



HOW IT WORKS -- This latest testing machine allows the automobile motors to travel along a floating track of roller bearings and then, automatically, enter the test block at certain intervals. The motor shown here is about to enter the block. Upon entering, it flips a lever, the overhead equipment drops down, turns on the air and the motor is run at the same speeds required of it on the highway. If it is rejected for any reason, it is pushed out again and across the tracks for the human mechanics to make adjustments.

(Observer photo)



ROBERT H. WORPELL, JR., of 28750 Oak Point Dr., Farmington, has been named vice president and director of manufacturing for Spectra McIntosh Corp. He was formerly manufacturing manager for the Detroit firm.

CHARLES C. KRUEGER JR., of 34106 Cowland, Farmington, has been named vice president and director of engineering for Spectra McIntosh Corp. Krueger was formerly chief engineer.

## G.G. Reamer Joins McCord

Gary G. Reamer of Livonia has joined the McCord Gasket Division of McCord Corp. as materials engineer.

Reamer comes to McCord from the defense engineering section of Chrysler Corp. where he was a product design engineer. Previously, he was with the Ford Motor Co. as a product development engineer.

He graduated from Cleveland State University with a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering. Reamer has also taken courses leading to master's degree in business administration from the University of Detroit.



CONRAD SCHUBACH of Plymouth has been appointed sales engineer by F. Joseph Lamb Co., Detroit-based manufacturer of special machines and automation equipment. A native of Germany, Schubach was formerly a process engineering supervisor for a manufacturer of automatic transmissions.

## On Insurance

More than 3,000 companies sell some or all forms of property and liability insurance, such as fire and automobile insurance, reports the Insurance Information Institute. The majority of such insurance, however, is provided by about 900 companies which operate in all or most states.

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## WILLIAM BOURNIAS

Plymouth has been appointed vice president and works manager of Index Machine Tool Co., Jackson. He was previously general manager of a company manufacturing basic machine modules and machine equipment.

## Anti-Yule

In Massachusetts in 1659, it was a penal offense to celebrate Christmas because Puritan settlers regarded merry-making as wrong no matter what its reason.

## Engineers To Meet

The Oakland County chapter of the Michigan Society of Professional Engineers will meet Monday, Dec. 15 at 7 p.m. in the Ellis Lodge at 305 S. Troy, Royal Oak.

Speaker will be William J. Blar, Marysville, MPSE vice president.

Dutch-treat dinner is \$4. New members are invited.

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