

Obituary

Dr. Felix Zandman

Dr. Felix Zandman, Founder & Executive Chairman of the Board, Chief Technical Officer and Chief Business Development Officer, of Vishay Intertechnology, Inc. (NYSE: VSH) died on June 4, 2011, at age 83. Dr. Zandman was born in 1928 in Grodno, Poland.

Dr. Zandman's personal experiences, intelligence and creativity had a profound impact on Vishay, the semiconductor and passive electronic components industry and Israel, and everybody with whom he worked. His courage, perseverance and dedication served as an inspiration to all who knew him.

In October 1941, he and his family were arrested by the Nazis and sent to the Grodno Ghetto. Dr. Zandman survived the Holocaust by hiding with his uncle Sender and other people under the floor boards in the house of a Polish family for 17 months. While in hiding, Dr. Zandman's uncle taught him trigonometry and higher mathematics. Following the war, in 1946, Dr. Zandman emigrated to France, where he earned a mechanical engineering degree and MS in physics from the University of Nancy (France) and a PhD in physics from the University of Paris, Sorbonne.

In 1956, Dr. Zandman moved to the United States and began working for Tatnall Measuring Systems in Philadelphia as director of basic research. During this time he developed PhotoStress® measurement instruments and revolutionary temperature-resistant foil resistors, which enable manufacturers of a wide assortment of precision products to upgrade their performance. When Tatnall declined to market Dr. Zandman's temperature-resistant resistors, Dr. Zandman, with financial support from his cousin Alfred P. Slaner, founded Vishay in 1962. The Company was named after the village in Lithuania where relatives of Dr. Zandman had perished during the Holocaust.

Dr. Zandman served as Chief Executive Officer of the Company from its inception until 2004 and as President from 1962 through 1998. He served as Board member when the Company started and assumed the position of Executive Chairman of the Board in 1989.

Under Dr. Zandman's leadership, Vishay has grown into a worldwide company with over 22,000 employees and manufacturing facilities in the Americas, Asia, Europe, and Israel, and with sales offices around the world. Today, Vishay Intertechnology is one of the world's largest manufacturers of discrete semiconductors and passive electronic components. Its components are used in electronic devices and equipment and in the industrial, computer, automotive, consumer, telecommunications, military, aerospace, power supplies, and medical markets. In addition, Dr. Zandman's patented inventions enabled Vishay Precision Group, Inc. (NYSE: VPG), Vishay's measurements and foil resistor businesses, to be spun-off into an independent business in 2010.

Dr. Zandman published numerous scientific papers, three textbooks, and an autobiography ("Never the Last Journey") and held over 70 patents. He won numerous awards including the Best Strategic Investor Award from the Israel Manufacturers Association (awarded by the President of Israel); the Legion of Honor, France (awarded by the President of the Republic of France); the Order of Merit for Research and Invention (France); the Franklin Institute Medal for Science (USA); the Electronic Industries Alliance Medal of Honor (presented at a ceremony attended by the President of the United States); and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Electronic Distributors Association. He was awarded the title of Doctor Honoris Causa from the University of Beer Sheva (Israel) and from the Israel Institute of Technology (Technion). In 1994, Dr. Zandman also became a citizen of the State of Israel.

Dr. Zandman is survived by his wife Mrs. Ruta Zandman; his children, Dr. Gisele Zandman Goddard and her husband Eli, Mrs. Ariele Zandman Klausner and her husband Steven, and Mr. Marc Zandman and his wife Orit; and nine grandchildren.