Publications and Multimedia Projects on Siemens History
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Monographs

Publications on topics of company history. Here you’ll find a selection of current publications and research projects:

Johannes Bähr

Werner von Siemens 1816 – 1892
A biography

Werner von Siemens was one of the pioneers of the modern era, and one of the most significant entrepreneurs in German history. He helped change people’s lives through fundamental innovations in communications and energy technology. With his brothers William and Carl, he laid the foundations for today’s Siemens AG. A new biography appeared on the occasion of his 200th birthday, December 13, 2016.

Munich 2017
ISBN: 9783406714160

44.00 EUR

→ Extract

Werner von Siemens

Recollections

Toward the end of his eventful life, Werner von Siemens wrote his memoirs. In this excitingly written autobiography, which appeared in 1892, the entrepreneur and inventor set forth his principles and main messages, among colorful descriptions of cable-laying expeditions and travels to the Caucasus. The book also includes his family tree and a detailed curriculum vitae, as well as explanatory notes to the text and numerous photographs from the holdings of the Siemens Historical Institute.

ed. by Wilfried Feldenkirchen, Munich 2005
revised, expanded paperback edition, Munich 2008

→ Read the book online

Out of print;
remaining copies may be obtained from Siemens Historical Institute, shi@siemens.com
Age of Electricity.
Pioneering Achievements in Electrical Engineering.
Photographs from the Siemens Historical Institute

Here’s a vivid portrayal of the pioneering age of power engineering. Stunning photographic materials from the Siemens Historical Institute show what an important role Siemens played in electrifying infrastructure and daily life everywhere in the world. The photos provide a lively, impressive picture of the electrical equipment company’s achievements from the 1880s to the early 1930s in Germany, the rest of Europe, Latin America and Asia.

Berlin 2014
ISBN: 9783422072541

29.80 EUR

→ Extract

Martin Lutz
Carl von Siemens 1829 – 1906.
A Life Between
Family and World Firm

Three brothers joined their partner Johann Georg Halske in the mid-19th century to turn a small Berlin telegraph construction company – the “Telegraphen-Bauanstalt von Siemens & Halske” – into a worldwide corporation: Werner, Wilhelm and Carl von Siemens. Martin Lutz presents the first biography of the youngest of the three brothers, at the same time providing a vivid account of the early history of the Siemens company.

Vaduz 2016
ISBN: 9783406645433

29.95 EUR
In the USA, it was not until the 1970s that Siemens developed from a rather unknown niche company into a major market player. There were any number of reasons. This analysis focuses on the relationships between the Siemens parent company and the local company in the USA. The author examines the informational imbalance between the two sides as the basis for business successes and failures.

Stuttgart 2013
ISBN: 9783515104739
Available only in German

58.00 EUR
The LIFELINES Series

Personalities who have shaped the history and development of Siemens in various ways. Find out more about the lives and achievements of the people behind the company.

Werner von Siemens
LIFELINES; Volume 5

Werner von Siemens was born in 1816 in the village of Lenthe near Hannover, Germany. The short biography of this entrepreneur and inventor vividly shows how the son of a tenant farmer rose to become one of the outstanding figures of the 19th century. Johannes Bähr shows us a man of firm principles, who always pursued his goals with the greatest persistence and stamina, overcoming both calamities and dry spells in the process.

ed. Siemens Historical Institute.
Berlin 2016

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Copies may be obtained
from Siemens Historical Institute,
shi@siemens.com

Ernst von Siemens
LIFELINES; Volume 4

Ernst von Siemens was a major figure in the history of the electrical engineering company, setting its strategic course in the decades of rebuilding following World War II. It was under his leadership that today’s Siemens AG was organized. The grandson of company founder Werner von Siemens, he was also a man of wide-ranging interests and, in addition to his entrepreneurial activities, an important patron of the arts. Ernst von Siemens is remembered above all for the cultural foundations that he established.

ed. Siemens Historical Institute.
Munich 2015

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Copies may be obtained
from Siemens Historical Institute,
shi@siemens.com
Ernst Hölzer
LIFELINES; Volume 3

Ernst Hölzer participated in a series of cable-laying projects for Siemens & Halske before going to Persia for the Indo-European Telegraph Department in 1863. Five years later the engineer was temporarily released by the British authority so that he could take over as Construction Superintendent for the Persian section of Siemens' Indo-European telegraph line. This biographical portrait describes the challenges confronting the Thuringia-born Hölzer in 19th-century Persia.

ed. Siemens Historical Institute.
Munich 2015

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Copies may be obtained from Siemens Historical Institute, shi@siemens.com

Carl von Siemens
LIFELINES; Volume 2

Carl von Siemens was instrumental in turning the Berlin "Telegraphen-Bauanstalt von Siemens & Halske" into a global company in the second half of the 19th century. Werner von Siemens’ younger brother achieved his greatest successes in Russia, where he developed the international business of Siemens & Halske into an important growth factor for the entire company at an early date. From 1869 onwards, he played a major role in building the Indo-European Telegraph Line and laying a trans-Atlantic cable. It was with full justification that William Siemens called his younger brother right from his early years with the company the “best industrialist of us all.”

ed. Siemens Historical Institute.
Munich 2014

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Copies may be obtained from Siemens Historical Institute, shi@siemens.com
Johann Georg Halske
LIFELINES; Volume 1

In 1847, precision mechanic Johann Georg Halske joined Werner von Siemens to form the company that bore both their names. But however much the two men shared their enthusiasm for electric telegraphy, their personalities and their ideas about how their “Telegraphen-Bauanstalt” should develop diverged. It was the very business success and international growth of the company that led Halske and Siemens to go their separate ways after working together for 20 years. Alienated by an increasingly industrialized work world, Halske retired to private life at the end of 1867.

ed. Siemens Historical Institute.
Munich 2014

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Copies may be obtained from Siemens Historical Institute,
shi@siemens.com
Digital resources

Media interest in historic subjects has grown sharply since the mid-1990s. In parallel, new electronic media and forms of communications have developed that have significantly expanded our communications activities. Here is a selection of our current digital products, intended to inspire an interest in Siemens history among new target groups.

Siemens in Berlin

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the switchgear plant in Siemensstadt, the Siemens Historical Institute has released the "Siemens in Berlin" app. Experience the history of one of Berlin's oldest production facilities, from its origins down to today. But the app offers far more: it brings to life a total of ten historic Siemens sites, of which some are still standing today in the company's founding city – from Werner von Siemens' villa in Charlottenburg to the world's first trolley bus on its test run in Halensee on today's Kurfürstendamm. Take a tour of major Siemens locations in Berlin.

→ Download the Android app from Google Play
→ Download the app from iTunes

Looking to the future.
Werner von Siemens: Visionary and man of action

Today, Siemens is one of the largest, most innovative companies in the world. This Web feature tells how it all began, guiding visitors through the key moments in the company founder's life. To tell the story, historic photographic material is used in new, surprising ways, combining evocative images with a specially composed 3-D sound track. It provides a new way of looking at Werner von Siemens as a man: a pioneer who thought in entirely new, global ways for his era. A visionary who achieved his dream and built an international corporation from nothing.

→ Take a look at the History Feature
The Dynamo Machine.  
An invention of Werner von Siemens

In 1866, Werner von Siemens discovered the dynamo-electric principle and built his first dynamo machine. This was a milestone in the history of technology, because electricity is still generated on the basis of the dynamo-electric principle today – albeit on a completely different scale. This film focuses on a detailed description of the Siemens dynamo and its design principle.

→ Take a look at the film

The Werner von Siemens Download Portal with information, photos and documents about the company founder’s life and work

Employees, journalists, researchers, and students from all over the world take an interest in Werner von Siemens’ life. Our download portal offers biographical information, informational graphics, quotations and documents, as well as a selection of photos, covering the company founder’s life and most important inventions.

→ Find out more

Europe calling America.  
Three brothers, the ocean & a cable

This audio play about laying the trans-Atlantic cable tells how the Siemens brothers were able to overcome massive obstacles and adversities to lay more than 3,000 kilometers of communications cable in the Atlantic between 1874 and 1875. The adventure tale, enacted on two CDs, is largely based on original letters and other sources from the holdings of the Siemens Historical Institute.

Audio book  
2 CDs, 32 page booklet  
Hamburg 2012  
ISBN: 9783000396854  
14.90 EUR

→ Audio sample
Recollections.
The life of Werner von Siemens

The Siemens Historical Institute has published the company founder’s autobiography as an iPad app. Eight remarkably presented stories bring Werner von Siemens’ adventures to life, whether in Egypt or on the high seas. Each of the stories focuses on his inventions and business achievements, as well as his private life. If you want to know more, you can read his entertainingly written “Recollections” directly on your iPad.

→ Download the app from iTunes
Questions? Comments?
We’d be happy to hear from you.
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More information
For additional current information, as well as directions, visit:

siemens.com/shi

Please give us some advance notice before visiting our archive so we can prepare for your work in the best possible way.

Concept and design:
Siemens Historical Institute in cooperation with hw.design, Munich

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