



## 160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fact Sheet

### Company Facts

- Elisha Graves Otis founded Otis Elevator Company in Yonkers, New York in 1853, after he invented the elevator safety brake
- Today, Otis operates in more than 200 countries and territories and employs 60,000 employees worldwide
- The current president of Otis is Pedro Baranda, one of the lead engineers who helped to develop Otis' ground-breaking flat belt for the Gen2® elevator – the fastest selling product in company history
- Otis is a wholly-owned subsidiary of United Technologies Corporation
- In 2012, Otis generated net sales of \$12 billion, approximately 80 percent from outside the United States
- The company maintains a service portfolio of approximately 1.7 million units worldwide
- Over the past 100 years, Otis has provided elevators to eight of the ten World's Tallest Buildings.
- Otis elevators are in the Burj Khalifa, the tallest building in the world at 2,722 ft.
- The company's two tallest test towers are located in Shibayama, Japan (505 ft.) and Bristol, CT, U.S.A. (384 ft.)
- The company operates 20 manufacturing sites worldwide



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### Historical Facts

- In 1854, Elisha Graves Otis performed his safety brake demonstration by cutting a hoisting platform rope at New York's World Fair
- Norton Otis, Elisha Otis' son, collaborated with Thomas Edison and Rudolf Eikmeyer to develop electric elevators and controls in the late 1880's
- In 1887, Otis won a contract to install elevators in the Eiffel Tower in France
- Otis installed its first elevators in China in 1888 – a country that today accounts for half of all global elevator sales
- In 1891 and 1893, Otis installed elevators in Japan and Russia respectively, fueling its growth internationally
- William Delavan Baldwin led the effort to incorporate Otis in 1898 and became the company's first president
- In 1899, Otis produced the world's first escalator at its Yonkers, NY factory
- In 1903, Otis introduced the first gearless traction elevator that made skyscrapers possible
- In 1931, Otis installed elevators at the Empire State Building in New York City
- In 1948, Otis introduced an automatic electronic elevator system, enabling elevators to run for the first time without an elevator operator
- In 1976, Otis became a wholly owned subsidiary of United Technologies Corporation (UTC)
- In 1983, Otis introduced its OTISLINE® call center, a computerized, 24-hour-a-day dispatching service for mechanics in North America
- In 1995, Otis introduced REM III™ monitoring system in 18 countries, the latest and most advanced of Otis' remote elevator monitoring services
- In 1999, Otis launched e-business strategy with a revised Web site ([www.otis.com](http://www.otis.com)) and new e-business products: e\*Direct (on-line elevator specifying and ordering) and e\*Service (on-line service customer Web site)
- In 2000, Otis announced the Gen2 elevator system, the first elevator system to use flat belt technology in place of steel cables to lift the elevator car
- In 2011, 80 years after installing the first elevators in the Empire State Building, Otis began modernizing 68 elevators at the iconic landmark
- In 2013, Otis introduced the Gen2 Switch elevator, an energy-efficient product that utilizes battery technology and offers solar power as an option