

# Allen-Bradley

For the Louisiana politician, see [Allen Bradley \(politician\)](#).

Allen-Bradley

**Rockwell  
Automation**



<b>Industry</b>	Factory Automation Equipment Manufacturer
<b>Predecessor</b>	Compression Rheostat Company
<b>Founded</b>	1903; 117 years ago in <a href="#">Wisconsin</a> , United States
<b>Founders</b>	Dr. Stanton Allen and Lynde Bradley Milwaukee, Wisconsin
<b>Headquarters</b>	, United States
<b>Owner</b>	<a href="#">Rockwell Automation</a>
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://ab.rockwellautomation.com">ab.rockwellautomation.com</a>



Logo used by Allen-Bradley prior to its acquisition by [Rockwell Automation](#).



## Allen Bradley Programmable Controller with programmer



Allen-Bradley PLC installed in a control panel

**Allen-Bradley** is the brand-name of a line of [factory automation](#) equipment, today owned by [Rockwell Automation](#). The company, with revenues of approximately US \$6.4 [billion](#) in 2013, manufactures programmable logic controllers ([PLC](#)), [human-machine](#) interfaces, [sensors](#), safety components and systems, software, [drives](#) and drive systems, [contactors](#), motor control centers, and systems of such products. Rockwell Automation also provides asset-management services including repair and consulting. Rockwell Automation's headquarters is in [Milwaukee, Wisconsin](#).

The [Allen-Bradley Clock Tower](#) is a Milwaukee landmark featuring the largest four-sided clock in the [western hemisphere](#).

## History

The company was founded in 1903 as the *Compression Rheostat Company* by Dr. Stanton Allen and [Lynde Bradley](#) with an initial investment of \$1,000. In 1910 the firm was renamed *Allen-Bradley Company*; for close to the next century it provided the bulk of discrete resistors used for electronics and other products.<sup>[[citation needed](#)]</sup> In 1952 it opened a subsidiary in [Galt, Ontario](#), Canada, that employs over 1000 people. In 1985 a company record was set as the [fiscal year](#) ended with \$1 billion in sales. In February 1985, [Rockwell International](#) purchased Allen-Bradley for \$1.651 billion, which is the largest acquisition in [Wisconsin](#) history.<sup>[1]</sup> For all intents and purposes, Allen-Bradley took over Rockwell's industrial automation division.

Rockwell eventually moved its headquarters to Milwaukee. In 2002, when Rockwell split into two companies, Allen-Bradley followed the automation division into Rockwell Automation.