Ball Corporation's Natural Progression

1880

1914 Began making rubber sealing rings for jars

1935 Rubber department expanded to make goods for household appliance and automotive industries

1942 Aridor Co., Chicago, acquired for commercial closure production
1943 American Zinc Products Co., Greencastle, Ind., acquired from DuPont

1952 Kent Plastics Corp., Evansville, Ind., purchased; sold in 1982
1954 Chardon Rubber Co., Chardon, Ohio, acquired

1961 Industrial Rubber Goods Co., St. Joseph, Mich., acquired

1960 Asheville, N.C., glass plant built; closed in 1994
1961 Mundelein, Ill., glass plant built; closed in 1981
1962 Muncie, Ind., glass plant closed

1974 New plastics plant built in Fort Smith, Ark.
1974 Rubber facility acquired from Litton in Batavia, N.Y.

1973 VacKote lubricant, later marketed as Sound Guard; sold in 1980
1974 Home canning lid shortage

1978 Rubber division sold
1978 Unimark Plastics acquired

1975 Acrylic giftware introduced; sold in 1980
1976 Freshware introduced; sold in 1981

1983 Unimark Plastics, Greenville, S.C., facility and headquarters constructed
1984 Coextruded plastic sheet and containers manufactured in Muncie, Ind.
1985 FastTrack visual inspection system introduced

1980 Ball Corporation 100 years old
1984 Ball sales reached $1 billion

1985 Bowling Green, Ohio, plant started up for manufacturing of coextruded blow-molded plastic containers; closed 1988
1985 Datatrace temperature measurement system introduced
1986 Penn Video acquired; later named LumenX
1989 Unimark opened plant in Puerto Rico
1989 Yorker Closures acquired

ALLTRISTA

1991 Plastic Packaging Products Co. joint venture established
1991 Consumer Products Division introduced line of fruit preserves
1992 Plastic Packaging Products Co., became wholly owned subsidiary of Ball
1993 Seven businesses spun off to form Alltrista Corporation: consumer products (marketer of Ball canning products), metal services, zinc products, Unimark plastics, industrial plastics, plastic packaging and the LumenX company (vision inspection products)

Colour	Line
Blue	Glass
Yellow	Metal
Green	Aerospace
Orange	Plastic
Red	Discontinued

1880 Ball brothers began business as Wooden Jacket Can Company in Buffalo, N.Y.
1884 Glass fruit jars first made
1885 Zinc caps first made
1886 Ball Brothers Glass Manufacturing Company was incorporated
1887 Muncie, Ind. plant built. Metal operations continued at Buffalo and Bath, N.Y.
1888 First glass products made in Muncie, Ind. – glass oil cans and lamp chimneys
1889 Day-tank replaced pot furnaces
1889 All jar fittings manufacturing moved to Muncie, Ind.

1897 F.C. Ball Machine invented (patented 1898) – world's first semiautomatic glass machine

1900 Ball-Bingham Machine invented – first automatic glass machine
1901 Windfall Glass Co., Windfall, Ind., acquired
1902 Muncie & Western RR established
1902 Corrugated paperboard first used by Ball for interstate shipment of jars by rail

1904 Swayzee Glass Co., Swayzee, Ind., acquired
1904 Upland Glass Co., Upland, Ind., acquired

1915 Ideal jars first produced; discontinued 1962
1916 Westside Paper Mill, Muncie, Ind., acquired

1930 Two-piece Mason jar closures made of zinc and glass; later of tinplate and glass and later of all tinplate
1933 Eaton Strawboard Mill, Eaton, Ind., acquired from Upco Corp.

1943 During WWII, the company produced more than half of all the battery shells used by our armed forces, as well as by our Allies

1953 Hygeia nursing bottle business purchased; phased out mid-1960s

1962 Plastic container division established with plant in Joliet, Ill.; plant sold in 1967
1965 Quilted crystal jelly glasses introduced
1968 First outside contracts for antennas supplied by BBRC

1970 New Muncie, Ind., home canning closure plant completed
1970 Community canning centers program established; discontinued in 1980

1972 Avery-Laurence Ltd. acquired; phased out in late 1970s

1970 Pantek pre-fab housing; phased out early 1970s

1977 Ball Service Corporation formed, glass manufacturing and inspection equipment

1973 Ball listed on New York Stock Exchange under ticker symbol "BLL"
1974 Decision Consultants, Inc., Oakland, Calif., acquired and renamed Ball Computer Products, Inc.; phased out in early 1980s
1975 Petroleum equipment production facility in Natchez, Miss., acquired; closed in 1976
1975 New facility for Electronic Display Division, Blaine, Minn., built; sold in 1987
1975 Agricultural systems division formed; phased out in mid-1980s

Corporate headquarters, Muncie, Ind., opened 1976

1980 Metropak Containers acquired. Included plants at Jersey City (closed 1982) and Carteret, N.J.; Dolton, Ill.; Washington, Pa. (plant and mould facility – plant closed in 1987)

1981 Shuttle Imaging Radar-A (SIR-A) launched
1982 Efratom time and frequency business acquired; sold in 1995

1987 Ball-InCon glass joint venture formed
1987 Ball celebrates 100 years in Muncie, Ind.

1984 First Solar Backscatter Ultraviolet Radiometer 2 (SBUV/2) sensor launched
1985 Edmund F. Ball Technical Center dedicated
1985 Analytic Decisions, Inc., acquired; later part of Systems Engineering
1986 Ball acquired cryogenics assets of Beech Aircraft
1986 Ball selected to build the Space Telescope Image Spectrograph for Hubble
1987 Verac acquired, later part of Systems Engineering
1987 Colorado Engineering Center facility purchased
1988 Aerospace Manufacturing Center in Westminster, Colo., completed
1989 AIRLINK® communication system introduced
1989 Systems Engineering headquarters in San Diego, Calif. built

1990 Ball-InCon became wholly owned subsidiary of Ball; acquired former InCon plants at Henderson, N.C.; Lincoln, Ill.; Laurens, S.C.; Madera, Calif.; Port Allegany, Pa.; Ruston, La.; and Seattle, Wash.
1991 Ball sales reached $2 billion
1992 Commercial glass manufacturing operations of Kerr Glass Manufacturing Corporation acquired. Included plants in Dunkirk, Ind.; Plainfield, Ill.; Santa Ana, Calif.; and Sand Springs, Okla.

1990 CRRES (Combined Release and Radiation Effects Satellite) launched
1990 Hubble Space Telescope launched with Ball GHRS instrument
1990 RME (Relay Mirror Experiment) launched
1991 Ball awarded COSTAR contract to correct Hubble's optical aberration
1993 COSTAR installed on Hubble Space Telescope, corrected Hubble's blurred vision
1995 EarthWatch joint venture established
1995 Radarsat launched

1995 Ball and Saint-Gobain formed joint venture Ball-Foster Glass Container Co., L.L.C.
1996 Sold remaining 42% interest in Ball-Foster; Ball exited glass business

1994 Ball Plastic Container Operations formed
1995 PET container plant built in Chino, Calif.
1996 PET container plants built in Baldwinsville, N.Y.; Reading, Pa.; and Ames, Iowa.
1996 Acquired Brunswick Container assets
1997 PET container plant built in Delran, N.J.

1996 Mars Pathfinder launched carrying Ball antenna
1997 NICMOS, STIS installed on Hubble Space Telescope

1998

1894 Wooden boxes of dozen jars shipped – first dozen of anything shipped to grocery – patented by E.B. Ball
1898 Aluminum caps made for jars
1898 Ft. Wayne Glass Works, Upland, Ind., acquired
1899 Natural gas began to fail in Indiana Gas Belt

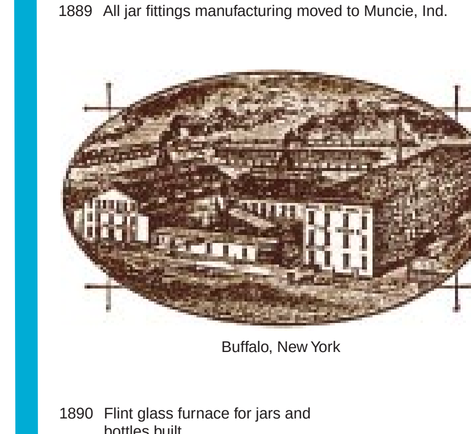
1904 Marion Fruit Jar & Bottle Co., Marion, Ind., acquired with plants in Marion, Converse, Fairmount, Ind., and Coffeyville, Kan.
1904 Port Glass Works, Belleville, Ill., acquired
1904 Loogootee Glass Works, Loogootee, Ind., acquired

1905 Automatic-flow feeder invented
1908 Totally automatic glass-making perfected by Ball
1909 Root Glass Co., Terre Haute, Ind., fruit jar plant acquired
1909 First *Blue Book* published
1909 Greenfield Fruit Jar & Bottle Co., Greenfield, Ind., and Owens machine license acquired
1909 Mason Fruit Jar & Bottle Co., Coffeyville, Kan., acquired
1911 Zinc mills in LaHarpe, Kan. – Lanyon Zinc Smelting Co. and LaHarpe Rolling Mill Co. – acquired
1912 Zinc mill established in Muncie, Ind.
1913 Texas Bottle Co., Wichita Falls, Texas, acquired; new plant built and operated until 1951
1915 First outside sale of zinc and zinc products began, including export to South African gold mining refineries

1920 Jelly glasses introduced
1922 Eclipse jars manufactured until 1952
1922 Company name changed to Ball Brothers Company
1923 Noblesville Strawboard Mill, Noblesville, Ind., acquired
1925 Schram Glass Manufacturing Co., St. Louis, acquired, with plants in Hillsboro, Ill.; Huntington, W. Va.; and Sapulpa, Okla.
1926 Manufacture of "B" and "C" battery cans began
1929 Pine Glass Corp., Okmulgee, Okla., acquired; closed in 1994

1962 Paper products phased out

Muncie, Ind., plant in mid-1950s


Buffalo, New York

1890 Flint glass furnace for jars and bottles built
1892 "Day and Night" flint glass tank installed – 1,000 workers employed

Muncie, Ind., plant about 1900

1934 Muncie, Ind., zinc mill expanded, became largest strip-rolling mill in world
1936 Three Rivers Glass Co., Three Rivers, Texas, acquired
1937 Black mechanical rubber production capacity added

1935 Pressure cookers first produced; discontinued 1941

1945 No. 1 glass plant in Muncie, Ind., burns
1947 Friedrich & Dimmock, Millville, N.J., purchased to make spun glass fiber and other glass products; sold in 1949
1947 El Monte, Calif., glass plant built
1948 Jacksonville, Fla., plant of Chattanooga Glass Co., leased for year

1955 Can-or-Freez™ jar introduced
1955 Control Cells Corp., producer of electronic weighing devices, acquired in Boulder, Colo.
1956 Ball Brothers Research Corp. formed
1958 First model from BBRC product line of rocket-borne pointing controls, SPC-100, launched (BBRC also made pointing controls for B52 bomber and high-altitude balloons)
1959 Additional Kent Plastics plant built in Evansville, Ind.; sold in 1986
1959 Plastisol sealant developed

1960 First of seven OSO contracts awarded BBRC
1967 Miratel Co., St. Paul, Minn., acquired

1960 Rolled Plate Metal Co., Brooklyn, N.Y., acquired; closed in 1971
1964 Caspers and Lafayette companies, Chicago, Ill., acquired
1968 Jeffco Manufacturing Co., Golden, Colo., acquired
1969 Company name changed to Ball Corporation

1971 BBRC awarded contract for low light level television (LLLTV) system for Seasparrow missile system
1973 Ball-Bartoe Aircraft Corp. formed in Boulder, Colo.; discontinued in 1978
1973 Time-Zero Laboratories, Gardena, Calif., acquired; later part of Systems Engineering

1970 Greeneville, Tenn., zinc plant completed
1971 Williamsburg, Va., can plant built
1972 Findlay, Ohio, can plant built

1976 Two Viking orbiters, carrying Ball-built Visual Imaging Subsystem (VIS), encounter Mars
1978 Coastal Zone Color Scanner (CZCS) launched
1979 SAGE I launched
1979 P78-1 spacecraft launched

1976 Ball listed on Midwest Stock Exchange under ticker symbol "BLL"

1976 Fairfield, Calif., can plant built
1979 Colorado Office Center built

1981 First space shuttle launched, included Ball star trackers, antenna and actuators
1983 IRAS (Infrared Astronomical Satellite) launched
1984 ERBS (Earth Radiation Budget Satellite) launched

1980 PLM joint venture plant in Malmo, Sweden, built
1981 Production of zinc-based penny blanks first began
1981 Saratoga Springs, N.Y., can plant built
1983 PLM-Ball joint venture beverage can plant built in Berlin; sold to PLM in 1987

1986 Joint venture with M.C. Packaging in Guangzhou, China, started up
1987 Conroe, Texas, beverage can plant built
1988 Tampa, Fla., can plant acquired
1988 Ball Packaging Products Canada joint venture formed
1989 Taiwan joint venture formed to produce metal beverage containers

1991 Ball Packaging Products Canada became wholly owned subsidiary of Ball; included seven plants
1992 FTB joint venture formed for China can plants
1993 Heekin Can, Inc. acquired; included 11 plants
1994 Touch Top™ ends introduced
1994 Ball Asia Pacific Ltd. office established in Hong Kong
1994 Joint venture formed with San Miguel Corp. and Yamamura Glass Co. to manufacture beverage cans in the Philippines
1995 Joint venture formed with BBM to manufacture beverage containers in Brazil

1996 Joint venture formed with Standard Can Company to manufacture beverage containers in Thailand
1996 Aerosol can manufacturing assets sold; Ball exited aerosol can business
1996 Plants in Beijing, Wuhan and Ningbo (China) started up
1997 M.C. Packaging Ltd. acquired; Ball became largest can maker in China and Hong Kong through FTB and MCP
1998 Acquisition of Reynolds Metals Company's beverage can operations announced
1998 Corporate headquarters relocated from Muncie, Ind., to Broomfield, Colo.

CHINA

1880

50 million Americans in 38 states
1882 Electric motor invented
1883 Time zones established
1884 Linotype invented
1885 Motorcycle invented
1886 Aluminum processing invented
1886 Fluorine element discovered
1887 Automobile invented
1888 Camera invented
1889 Adding machine invented

1890

63 million Americans in 43 states
1891 Electricity installed in White House
1892 Carburetor invented
1893 Cleveland financial panic and depression
1895 X-rays and radio discovered
1896 Alaskan gold rush
1898 Spanish-American War
1898 Radium element discovered

1900

76 million Americans in 45 states
1901 President McKinley assassinated
1903 First airplane flight at Kitty Hawk by Wright brothers
1905 Theory of relativity proposed by Einstein
1906 San Francisco earthquake
1907 Oklahoma statehood
1909 Plastic invented

1910

92 million Americans in 46 states
1911 Air brake invented
1911 Air conditioning invented
1912 Arizona and New Mexico statehood
1913 Federal income tax began
1914 Panama Canal opened
1914 World War I began
1918 World War I ended
1919 Prohibition voted

1920

106 million Americans in 48 states
1920 First commercial radio broadcast
1922 Radar invented
1926 First rocket fired by Robert Goddard
1927 First solo flight of Atlantic by Lindbergh

1930

123 million Americans in 48 states
1930 Jet engine invented
1930 Great Depression underway
1933 FM radio invented
1933 Prohibition repealed
1935 Nylon invented
1935 Parking meters invented
1939 Helicopter invented
1939 First commercial TV broadcast
1939 World War II began in Europe

1940

132 million Americans in 48 states
1940 Plutonium element discovered
1941 Pearl Harbor attacked
1941 Aerosol spray developed
1944 D-Day invasion of Europe
1945 First explosion of A-bomb in U.S.; two dropped on Japan
1946 Electronic computer developed
1948 LP record developed
1948 Berlin blockade

1950

151 million Americans in 48 states
1950 Korean War began
1951 First transcontinental TV broadcast
1952 H-bomb exploded
1953 Korean armistice signed
1957 Sputnik launched; first manmade object in space
1958 First jet airline service
1959 Alaska and Hawaii statehood

1960

179 million Americans in 50 states
1960 Laser demonstrated
1961 First U.S. manned space flight
1963 President Kennedy assassinated
1966 First unmanned moon landing
1967 First heart transplant
1969 First man walks on moon, Neil Armstrong

1970

205 million Americans in 50 states
1970 Apollo 13 launched from Cape Kennedy
1970 231 million TV sets in use throughout the world
1971 26th Amendment to U.S. Constitution lowered voting age to 18
1971 U.S. satellite, Mariner 9, orbits Mars
1972 Dow Jones Industrial Average closed above 1,000 for the first time
1973 Skylab launched
1974 President Nixon resigned, following Watergate scandal

1974 U.S. Skylab 3 astronauts spend 84 days in space
1975 U.S. ended military involvement in Vietnam War
1976 Nation celebrated Bicentennial
1977 Nuclear-proliferation pact, curbing spread of nuclear weapons, signed by 15 countries including U.S. and U.S.S.R.
1978 World population reached about 4.4 billion persons, with 200,000 being added daily
1979 Nuclear power plant accident at Three Mile Island, Pa.
1979 Presidents Carter and Brezhnev signed SALT II agreement

1980

226 million Americans in 50 states
1981 Space Shuttle Columbia launched April 12
1981 Sandra Day O'Connor first woman on Supreme Court
1981 IBM launched its personal computer
1982 First artificial heart implant performed
1983 Sally Ride first U.S. woman astronaut in space; Guion Bluford first black astronaut
1983 U.S. and Caribbean allies invaded Grenada
1983 Compact disc (CD) introduced
1986 Space Shuttle Challenger disaster

1986 Two scientific teams reported finding AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)
1986 Major nuclear accident at Soviet Union's Chernobyl power station
1987 Cosmonaut Yuri Romanenko returned from Mir space station after record 326 days in space
1987 World population reached 5 billion
1988 McDonald's opened 20 restaurants in Moscow
1989 Exxon Valdez spilled 11 million gallons of crude oil into Alaska's Prince William Sound
1989 Berlin Wall fell

1990

248 million Americans in 50 states
1990 Dow Jones Industrial Average broke the 3,000 mark
1991 U.S. and Allied soldiers defeated Iraqi Army in 100-hour battle to liberate Kuwait
1992 Presidents Bush and Yeltsin proclaimed formal end to Cold War
1992 U.S. lifted trade sanctions against China
1992 Hurricane Andrew devastated South Florida
1993 Congress approved North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)
1995 Oklahoma City federal building bombed

1995 Dow Jones Industrial Average closed above 5,000 for first time
1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics
1996 Dow Jones Industrial Average closed above 6,000 for first time
1997 Dow Jones Industrial Average closed above 7,000, then 8,000, for first time
1997 Hong Kong reverted to China
1998 Dow Jones Industrial Average closed above 9,000 for first time

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