

THE HISTORY OF IRWIN TOOLS

IRWIN® Tools has a long and storied history, stretching for more than a century and set against the backdrop of a young, ambitious nation. In 1885, Charles Irwin patented the auger bit and, along with four business partners, formed the IRWIN Auger Bit Company. In 1924, William Petersen, a Danish immigrant, invented and patented VISE-GRIP® locking pliers. Through innovation and a series of acquisitions, these two companies have now become IRWIN Tools.

IRWIN Tools manufactures and distributes a broad line of professional-grade hand tools and power tool accessories worldwide for trade professionals who demand superior performance and durability on the job. The IRWIN Tools brand portfolio features user-preferred category leaders such as VISE-GRIP® locking tools, MARATHON® circular saw blades, QUICK-GRIP® clamping tools, SPEEDBOR® wood drilling bits, STRAIT-LINE® marking tools, UNIBIT® step drill bits, Marples® fine woodworking tools and HANSON® taps and dies.



NEW PRODUCTS

At IRWIN Tools, our end-user obsession, combined with world-class product development, enables us to produce professional-grade hand tools and power tool accessories that provide superior performance and durability on the job.

By incorporating end-user feedback with advanced engineering, we deliver innovative products that continue to surpass industry standards.

Marples. Woodworking Series Circular Saw Blades



**EXTENDED LIFE.
FLAWLESS FINISH.**

Levels and Squares



**RUGGED.
ACCURATE.
GUARANTEED.™**

INNOVATION MILESTONES



1885
IRWIN
Auger Bit
invented by
Charles Irwin



1914
HANSON
Taps & Dies
developed and
refined by Henry Hanson



1924
VISE-GRIP
Locking Pliers
invented by William Petersen



1954
SPEEDBOR®
Wood Boring
Spade Bits
for Power Drills



1960
STRAIT-LINE®
Chalk Reels

1968
SPEEDBOR
Spade Bits with
Cutting Spurs



1972
UNIBIT®
Step Drill Bits
invented by
Harry Oaks