

Schantz Organ Company Timeline

- 1824 Tschantz family emigrates from Switzerland to America, and settles in Ohio.
- 1849 Abraham Tschantz born
- 1873 Abraham starts building Ohio Beauty reed organs in a shop on the family farm near Kidron
- 1875 First factory built in Orrville
- 1891 First known pipe organ built for First United Brethren – Canton, Ohio
- 1899 Family name changed to “Schantz”
- 1901 New factory built at the corner of East Oak and South Walnut Streets; still used today.
- 1904 Oldest extant Schantz pipe organ built (Tiffin, Ohio – Second United Church of Christ, II/15)
- 1908 Last known Tracker action instrument built (Byesville, Ohio – First Methodist II/9)
- 1913 Second generation takes on leadership
 - Edison (*Visual and Tonal design*) (1878-1974)
 - Oliver (*Sales*) (1882-1938)
 - Victor A. (*Foreman*) (1885-1973)
- 1914 Zephyr blower patented
- 1926 Last known tubular-pneumatic action instrument built (New Philadelphia, Ohio – Trinity Episcopal II/7)
- 1946 Third generation takes on leadership
 - Paul (*son of Oliver, sales*) (1911-1997)
 - Bruce (*Son of Victor A, foreman*) (1913-2007)
 - John (*son of Victor A, Tonal Director*) (1920-2013)
- 1947 Jack Cook hired as Pipe Shop Foreman from Aeolian-Skinner, helps Schantz start making more pipes in-house
- 1953 Delivery of the Schantz “Magnum Opus” to The Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark, New Jersey. IV/154
- 1966 Pipe shop built for making new pipes
- 1973 Jack Sievert hired as Sales Director from Reuter. Retired in 2008.
- 1985 Fourth generation takes on leadership
 - Victor B. (*son of Bruce*) (b. 1953) Executive Vice President (becomes President in 1998)
- 1988 Burton K. Tidwell hired as tonal director
- 1992 Eric Gastier hired as architect
- 1993 First Blackinton-style chest built (Painesville, Ohio – Painesville United Methodist III/50)
- 1994 New three-story assembly room completed
- 1995 First CNC installed for efficiently building wooden parts
- 1996 Jeffrey Dexter becomes tonal director
- 2000 First international project completed in Melbourne, Australia
- 2014 Fifth generation takes on leadership
 - John P. (*son of Victor B*) (b 1986) becomes Comptroller



Celebrating



Dedication



1873

**TSCHANTZ ORGAN COMPANY
FOUNDED BY A.J. TSCHANTZ**

A.J. starts building Ohio Beauty reed organs in a shop on the family farm near Kidron, Ohio.

1891

FIRST KNOWN TSCHANTZ PIPE ORGAN

Built for First United Brethren - Canton, Ohio.



1901

NEW FACTORY BUILT

At the corner of East Oak and South Walnut Streets.
Still used today.

1913

**SECOND GENERATION
TAKES ON LEADERSHIP**

Edison (Visual and Tonal Design) (1878-1974)
Oliver (Sales) (1882-1938)
Victor A. (Foreman) (1885-1973)



1946

**THIRD GENERATION
TAKES ON LEADERSHIP**

Paul (son of Oliver, Sales) (1911-1997)
Bruce (son of Victor A, Foreman) (1913-2007)
John (son of Victor A, Tonal Director) (1920-2013)

1966

PIPE SHOP ADDITION TO FACTORY

Built for making new pipes.



1985

**FOURTH GENERATION
TAKES ON LEADERSHIP**

Victor B (son of Bruce) (b. 1953)
Executive Vice President (becomes President in 1988)

1994

NEW THREE-STORY ASSEMBLY ROOM

Addition to factory is completed.



2000

FIRST INTERNATIONAL PROJECT

Melbourne Town Hall, Australia