Company History

1883 1900 1940 1960 1970



1883

American inventor J.P. Leggett develops the idea for a spiral steel coil bedspring and partners with blacksmith and future brother-in-law C.B. Platt to form Leggett & Platt.



1885

The L&P bedspring is patented. Consisting of single cone spring wire coils, formed and interlaced in a unique manner and mounted on a wood slat base, it is used as a resilient, durable base for then-popular cotton, feather, and horsehair mattresses.



1901 Leggett & Platt is incorporated.



1926 Leggett & Platt completes the construction of its new combined manufacturing and Corporate office facility.



1933

The Company begins manufacturing springs for innerspring mattresses, paving the way for a diversified product lineup that would eventually include rollaway beds, folding metal cots, bed frames, and bed rails.



1947 Leggett & Platt operates four plants in three states (Missouri, Kentucky, and Texas) and has 500 employees.



1953 Harry M. Cornell Sr. becomes president.



1960 Harry M. Cornell Jr., J.P. Leggett's grandson, is elected President and CEO, taking over for his father (J.P. Leggett's son-in-law).



1967 Initial public offering of Leggett & Platt stock.



1970 The Company begins producing steel motion hardware for the Home Furniture market, allowing upholstered seating to rock, recline, and swivel.



1970 The Company begins drawing steel wire primarily for internal use.



1979 Leggett & Platt stock listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

1980

1984 The Company continues to build its global footprint by entering the Work Furniture market. Today L&P produces components and select lines of private label finished furniture.



1986 The Company enters the Flooring Products market.



1988 The Company enters the Automotive market by producing seating components.



1990

1993 The Company enters the Non-Woven Fabric market.



1999 Felix E. Wright is elected CEO after Harry M. Cornell Jr.'s retirement.



1999 The Company expands its presence in the Adjustable Bed market through an acquisition.



2000

2002 L&P begins producing steel rod in Sterling, IL, primarily for use in the Company's wire-drawing facilities.



2004 The Company enters the Geo Components market.



2006 David S. Haffner is elected CEO.

2007

The Company unveils a new strategic direction. The Company focuses on divesting underperforming businesses, improving margins and returns, and returning cash to shareholders through increasing the dividend and share buybacks.



2010

2012 Leggett enters the Aerospace market, producing exotic metal tubing and fabricated assemblies for fluid conveyance.



2015 Karl G. Glassman is elected CEO.

2016

The Company successfully divests a majority of its underperforming businesses and turns its attention to profitably growing revenues.



2018 The Company enters the Hydraulic Cylinders market.



2019 L&P acquires Elite Comfort Solutions, a leader in proprietary specialized foam technology for the bedding and furniture industries.



2020

2021 J. Mitchell Dolloff is elected CEO.



2024 Karl G. Glassman is elected CEO.

Today, Leggett & Platt products can be found nearly everywhere.

The Company is a leading supplier of:

- Bedding components and private label finished goods
- Automotive seat comfort and convenience systems
- Home and work furniture components
- Geo components
- Flooring underlayment
- Hydraulic cylinders for material handling and heavy construction applications
- Aerospace tubing and fabricated assemblies

