# THE HISTORY OF CLARAGE

When Thomas Clarage and Charles A. Bird established Bird and Clarage in Kalamazoo, MI, the company produced grey iron castings, horizontal steam engines and industrial fan equipment. Little did they know that they had started a long history of product development, experience and partnership that is still going strong after 150 years.

After several name changes due to ownership changes, the company became The Clarage Fan Company in 1912 when industrial fans and blowers became the principal product offering. The company enjoyed steady growth, requiring the expansion of their manufacturing facility in Kalamazoo in 1957.

In 1969, Zurn Industries, an environmental control company, acquired The Clarage Fan Company as part of their Zurn Air Systems Division. Zurn Industries had already acquired several other companies, including Fly Ash Arrestor Corporation and Swartout, which also operated under the Air Systems Division. Fans were sold by the name Zurn Air Systems Division until 1978 when the name changed to The Clarage Fan Company, a Division of Zurn Industries, Inc. in order to promote stronger brand recognition.

### COMPANY TIMELINE

- 1874 Thomas Clarage and Charles A. Bird founded Bird and Clarage in Kalamazoo, MI. The company manufactured industrial fan equipment, horizontal steam engines and gray iron castings.
- 1905 The company became known as Clarage Foundry and Manufacturing Company.
- 1912 The name changed to Clarage Fan Company and additional designs of industrial fans and blowers were added to the product line.
- 1930s Clarage introduced air conditioning equipment and steam engines were discontinued.
- 1945 Multi-cyclone dust collectors were added to Fly Ash Arrestor Corporation's product line.
- 1957 Clarage increased its manufacturing plant capacity in Kalamazoo from 200,000 sq. ft. to 340,000 sq. ft.
- 1969 Zurn Industries acquired the Clarage Fan Company and merged it into Zurn Air Systems Division with the former Fly Ash Arrestor Corporation of Birmingham, AL and the former Swartout, Inc. of Kokomo, IN.
- 1984 Company operations in Kalamazoo were moved to Birmingham, AL and combined with Fly Ash Arrestor.
- 1996 Zurn Air Systems Division achieved ISO-9001 certification.
- 1997 Twin City Fan Companies, Ltd. acquired Zurn Air Systems Division; brought back the Clarage name.
- 2007 Clarage manufacturing moved to Pulaski, TN.
- 2009 Engineering dept. shifted to 3D drawing platform.
- 2014 50,000 sq. ft. building expansion completed.
- 2015 High temp test structure renovated to accommodate airstream temperatures in excess of 750°F.
- Field 3D scanning and modeling implemented to gather dimensional data and reverse-engineer fans and components.

Call us to provide replacement parts for all Zurn equipment.

Our extensive archive library contains original order records and drawings for all Zurn Air Systems Division equipment that was installed years ago.



#### The Clarage Fan Company, 1950s.

### AFTERMARKET SOLUTIONS FOR EQUIPMENT FROM

### **ANY MANUFACTURER**

Clarage's expertise certainly does not end with the design and fabrication of our own fans, accessories and multi-clone dust collectors. One of our greatest strengths has been, and continues to be, our ability to repair, modify, replace or upgrade other manufacturer's equipment. Replacing and repairing existing and obsolete equipment produced by companies such as Process Baron, New York Blower, Western, Joy, UOP, Howden, etc. is routine and common practice at Clarage. Through the use of an extensive archive library that contains original order records and drawings, Clarage also provides replacement parts for all Zurn Air Systems Division equipment that was installed years ago. Save some time and let us help with your repair or replacement parts, regardless of the manufacturer.

# A PARTNER FROM THE BEGINNING...



Experience makes the difference. Since 1874, Clarage has been designing and fabricating industrial fans. Although the name has changed, the quality of our equipment and our commitment to our customers has never changed. This has established Clarage with one of the best known and widely respected reputations in the world. Our experience, capability and extensive installation and repair list from around the world has been built up over decades of dedication and resourcefulness.

#### NEW FANS

> Almost 150 years of engineering and manufacturing expertise

#### REPAIR & REBUILD

> Regardless of original manufacturer

#### **REPLACEMENT PARTS**

> For fans from ANY manufacturer

# ...THE REST IS HISTORY.



## CUSTOM IS OUR STANDARD

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