

# The End of an Era: Lockheed Martin Closes its Eagan Plant

The last couple decades of the company's history have a convoluted corporate history. In 1991, Unisys restructured their defense division into a subsidiary named Paramax. The company was then divided in two when they sold this defense subsidiary to Loral in 1995. A year later it was bought by the defense giant Lockheed Martin for \$9.1 billion. This proved to be the company's final chapter. Once a Twin Cities giant with numerous locations, Lockheed's Eagan plant on Pilot Knob Road with its 1,200 employees became one of the few company facilities to remain.



Above: The original Engineering Research Associates plant on Minnehaha Ave. in St. Paul. This plant remained an important company facility until its closure in 1991 under Unisys.



Left: The company's Eagan facility after its 1974 expansion which more than doubled its size. It was known as "UNIVAC Park" when it first opened in 1967 and affectionately known as "Plant 8" by the employees who worked there. It was a significant company fixture until its closure in 2012.

In November of 2010 Lockheed Martin announced that to remain competitive in the marketplace they would be closing their Eagan plant by the end of 2012. The property was purchased by CSM Corporation in 2011 and leased to Lockheed until they phased out their operations. By January of 2013 the building was empty. All that remained of Lockheed's Minnesota presence was the air traffic control facility in Eagan. It was the end of a long, and important chapter in the history of Minnesota's computer industry.

*In an era of increased affordability, it is essential we drive down costs and optimize capacity at our facilities nationwide.*

**Orlando Carvalho**  
President of  
Lockheed MS2

From a *St. Paul Pioneer Press*  
article 11/19/10

Below: The demolition of the Lockheed Martin plant on the corner of Pilot Knob and Yankee Doodle roads in Eagan dated March 2015. It is currently being developed by CSM Corporation as a 434,000 square foot retail and office center which will be known as "Central Park Commons." Image courtesy of Tim Johnson.

