FAIRCHILD'S OFFSPRING

1955 Shockley Labs*
William Shockley, eight others

Co-inventor of the transistor, Shockley recruited eight young men from East Coast labs to develop the technology. They left because of Shockley's erratic management style and became the founding cadre for the West Coast semiconductor industry.

1957 Fairchild Semiconductor*
(From left) Gordon Moore, Sheldon Roberts, Eugene Kleiner, Robert Noyce, Victor Grinich, Julius Blank, Jean Hoerni, Jay Last

Founded by "The Traitorous Eight" from Shockley, Fairchild was the first company to work exclusively in silicon. It spawned more than 30 Silicon Valley companies, including Intel, Advanced Micro Devices, and National.

1969 Four Phase*
Lee Boysel, Jack Faith

1972 Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers
Eugene Kleiner

1980 LSI Logic
Wilfred Corrigan

1969 AMD
W.J. Sanders III, seven others

Flamboyant Sanders left Fairchild to found this up-and-down rival to Intel. The swing is up right now.

1967 National Semiconductor
Charles Sporck, two others

After leaving Fairchild, Sporck ran National for 24 years, building it into a giant in analog and digital chips.

1961 Signetics*
(now Philips Semiconductor)
David Allison, David James, Lionel Kattner, Mark Weissenstern, two others

1968 Computer Microtechnology*
John Schroeder, Jack Schmidt, two others

1968 Intel
Robert Noyce, Gordon Moore

The king of PC microprocessors, Intel is now the largest chip company in the world, with revenues topping $20 billion. Most Intel execs stay on board instead of launching startups.

1983 Cypress
T. J. Rodgers, Lowell Turiff

1981 Linear Technology
Robert Swanson, Robert Dobkin

1985 Cirrus Logic
Michael Hackworth, Kamran Elahian, five others

1973 Synertek*
Robert Schreiner, R. Barringer, six others

1981 SEEQ
Gordon Campbell, George Perlegos

1983 Sierra Semiconductor
James Diller, four others

1993 NeoMagic
Kamran Elahian, Prakash Agarwal

1979 VLSI Technology
Jack Baletto, Dan Floyd, Gunnar Wetlesen

1974 Zilog*
Federico Faggin, Ralph Ungermann

1985 Chips & Technologies*
Gordon Campbell, Dado Banatao, two others

1985 Atmel
George Perlegos, Tsung-Ching Wu

1996 Planet Web
Kamran Elahian

1984 Xilinx
Bernard Vonderschmitt

1983 SDA Systems* James Soloman

1983 Wafer Scale Integration
Eli Harari

1986 Synaptics
Federico Faggin, Carver Mead

1989 S3
Ron Yara, Dado Banatao

1994 3Dfx
Gordon Campbell, Scott Sellers

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*Acquired