

Materials Science and Engineering

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Engineering



Lead-free Solder Royalties Exceed \$58 Million



Left: Iver Anderson

Right: John F Smith

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Several noteworthy events occurred on June 18, 1996, including: suspected Unabomber Ted Kaczynski was indicted on 10 criminal counts; New Zealand's Mt. Ruapehu volcano erupted with an eight-mile high plume of ash; and MSE Adjunct Professor Iver Anderson and MSE Professor Emeritus John F. Smith and their colleagues published their first U.S. patent on an invention they called "Pb-free Sn-Ag-Cu Ternary Eutectic Solder" [1]. Eighteen years later, the only item of lasting importance in that list has proven to be the lead-free solder.

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