



## **Carbonless Paper Pioneer Lowell Schleicher Dies**

(Appleton, Wis., July 1, 2003) Lowell Schleicher, whose work with the microencapsulation process led to the invention of carbonless paper, died June 30, 2003, in Appleton, Wis. He was 78.

“Our condolences go out to the family of Lowell Schleicher. Lowell was a brilliant scientist, a great inventor and a true gentleman,” said Doug Buth, Appleton’s chief executive officer. “His contributions to the invention of carbonless paper helped to shape the success of Appleton Papers (now Appleton) for the past 50 years.”

Born in Glenwood Springs, Colo., Schleicher earned a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, Mich., and a master’s degree in colloid chemistry from the University of Michigan. Soon after graduation he began his research career as a chemist with the National Cash Register Company in Dayton, Ohio.

While at NCR Corporation, Schleicher began working with the Barry Green, a company scientist who introduced the first commercial example of a system of liquid-filled microcapsules dispersed within a solid coating. It was this microencapsulation system that was used to develop carbonless paper.

During 1952 and 1953 Schleicher and Green worked together to further develop and refine the microencapsulation system. They co-invented the system that is used to produce much of today’s carbonless paper and filed the patent on June 30, 1953.

During the patent application process Schleicher proved he was as capable of explaining his ideas as he was at creating them. “The examiner refused to believe that capsules existed and instead felt the paper contained nothing more than oil and water emulsion,” said Schleicher. “So I put my equipment and materials on his desk and demonstrated the entire process right in front of him.” The patent office approved his application.

Schleicher, Green and others at NCR Corporation collaborated with Appleton Coated Paper Company, the predecessor company to Appleton, to commercially introduce carbonless paper in 1954. Schleicher continued to work with Appleton and, after NCR Corporation acquired Appleton Coated Paper Company in 1971, he moved to Appleton in 1973 and was named Appleton Papers’ director of basic research, a position he held until his retirement in May 1990.

### About Appleton

Appleton creates product solutions through its development and use of coating formulations and applications and encapsulation technology. The company produces carbonless, thermal, security, digital and performance packaging products. Appleton is headquartered in Appleton, Wisconsin, and has manufacturing operations in Wisconsin, Ohio and Pennsylvania, employs approximately 2,650 people, and is 100 percent employee-owned. For more information visit [www.appletonideas.com](http://www.appletonideas.com)

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