

**BOBCAT COMPANY**

# BUILT ON INNOVATION

*Invention and entrepreneurship have described Bobcat and its people since the beginning. In 1960, we changed the way the world worked with the invention of the skid-steer loader – more than 50 years later we continue to push the boundaries of innovation and dominate the industry.*

**1947**  
E.G. Melroe and four sons establish Melroe Manufacturing Company and open a small factory in Gwinner, North Dakota.

**1956**  
Local turkey farmer Eddie Velo approaches brothers Cyril and Louis Keller with a unique problem. He is looking for a machine to quickly clear manure from the second floor of his turkey barn.

**1960**  
Melroe introduces the first four-wheel loader, the M400 – the world's first true skid-steer loader.



**1963**  
The Bobcat® M444 enters its first full year of availability. It features the company's first clutch chain lubrication.

**1970**  
The exclusive Bob-Tach® attachment mounting system is introduced and is today's global industry standard.



**1981**  
The first secondary restraint seat bar is introduced and patented.

**1987**  
The Bobcat 980 is the world's largest skid-steer loader with a 4,000-pound rated operating capacity.

**1990**  
The 50 Series skid-steer loaders are launched. In addition to durability and performance improvements, a new diagnostic and monitoring system (BOSS) is introduced.



**1992**  
The first Bobcat vertical-lift-path loader – the 7753 – is introduced as the "lift and carry" loader.



**1999**  
The deluxe instrumentation system is patented and provides loader monitoring and diagnostics in seven languages.  
  
The hydraulic Power Bob-Tach system is patented and simplifies changing attachments.  
  
The first compact track loader in the U.S. with a solid-mounted undercarriage is introduced.

**2000**  
The Melroe Company officially changes its name to Bobcat Company.



**2001**  
Bobcat Company is the first manufacturer to build 500,000 compact loaders.  
  
The A220 is introduced and is the world's first loader combining all-wheel steer and skid-steer operation.



**2006**  
The first utility vehicle (2300) with a RapidLink™ attachment change system is introduced.



**2007**  
Doosan Infracore acquires Bobcat Company from Ingersoll Rand.

**2009**  
The next-generation M-Series skid-steer and compact track loaders are introduced alongside new M-Series compact excavators.



**2010**  
A second Toolcat machine is added – the 5610 – with a three-point hitch and hydraulic power takeoff (PTO) for rear implements.



**2012**  
The extendable-arm excavator option is patented and increases dig depth, reach and dump height.



**2015**  
The depth check system is patented and accurately measures depth and grade without the need to exit the excavator.  
  
The MT85 mini track loader is introduced and is the first machine designed and tested in the Acceleration Center.



**2017**  
The next-generation R-Series E32 and E35 compact excavators launch during CONEXPO-CON/AGG.  
  
The 5-Link torsion suspension undercarriage is patented and provides increased performance, operator comfort and serviceability.  
  
The new V723 VersaHANDLER® telescopic tool carrier offers more lift capacity and longer reach.  
  
The renovated and expanded West Fargo office has its grand opening.




**2019**  
The Bob-Dock™ attachment mounting system is patented and introduced for fast and easy hydraulic changes.  
  
15 new compact tractor models are introduced.  
  
The E145, the largest excavator in company history, is announced.  
  
Bobcat MaxControl remote operation is introduced and turns a two-person job into a one-person operation.  
  
Bobcat Company opens the Bobcat Training Center in Aurora, Colorado.  
  
Next Is Now campaign launches and the Bobcat Next 60 media event is held at the new Bobcat Training Center.  
  
The Studio, a digital innovation center in downtown Fargo, opens.  
  
Bobcat Company announces expansions in Litchfield, Minnesota; Gwinner, North Dakota; and Statesville, North Carolina.  
  
The Global Collaboration Center opens in downtown Minneapolis.





**1958**  
Melroe Manufacturing buys the rights to an innovative three-wheeled loader built by the Keller brothers – introducing the M60: the first Melroe self-propelled loader.



**1959**  
Melroe enhances the M60 with the introduction of the new M200.

**1961**  
Durability improvements lead to the introduction of the M440.



**1962**  
Melroe introduces the Bobcat® trademark and paints the machines a familiar white. The name was in honor of the prairie animal, which is "tough, quick and agile."

**1969**  
Melroe brothers sell the business to Clark Equipment Company.

**1971**  
The world's smallest skid-steer loader – the M371 – is introduced as the "Mini Bob."

**1972**  
Loaders come equipped with new safety features, including roll-over protective structures and seatbelts.

**1989**  
The Bobcat compact excavator is introduced. It was the only compact excavator manufactured in the United States for more than 25 years.



**1993**  
The first training course kit for machine operation is introduced.

**1994**  
The Bobcat Interlock Control System (BICS™) is introduced to enhance operator safety in Bobcat loaders.

**1995**  
Clark Equipment Company is acquired by Ingersoll Rand.

**1996**  
The first keyless-start option is patented and offered on Bobcat loaders.



**2002**  
The first Bobcat utility vehicle is introduced – the 2100.  
  
Bobcat Company is the first manufacturer to build 50,000 compact excavators.  
  
The first Bobcat mini track loader is introduced – the MT50.  
  
Bobcat introduces the 430 and 435 compact excavators with FastTrack™ hydrostatic drive.




**2003**  
The first Toolcat™ 5600 utility work machine is introduced – the first vehicle of its kind.  
  
Bobcat Company adds the selectable joystick control option for Bobcat skid-steer loaders and compact track loaders.




**2008**  
Bobcat Company celebrates the 50th anniversary of the world's first compact loader.  
  
Bobcat Company manufactures its 750,000th skid-steer loader.  
  
Nine new compact tractor models are introduced to the lineup.




**2014**  
The Acceleration Center – a facility dedicated to product development, testing and innovation – opens in Bismarck, North Dakota.  
  
Bobcat Company celebrates the milestone of one million loaders manufactured.  
  
The 400-frame-size loader rounds out the M-Series product line.  
  
The Excavator Pro Clamp™ system is patented and adjusts to easily grab differently sized objects.  
  
The first Bobcat® Tier 4, non-DPF engines are introduced.




**2016**  
Bobcat Company introduces M2-Series skid-steer, compact track and all-wheel steer loaders with enhanced performance and operator comfort.  
  
The new V519 VersaHANDLER® telescopic tool carrier makes its debut.




**2018**  
Bobcat Company patents a full range of extendable-arm options; three sizes fitting five different excavator models.  
  
The R-Series excavator lineup is expanded with the new E85, the largest machine in the company's compact excavator family.



**2020**  
Acquisition of BOB-CAT, Steiner® and Ryan® grounds maintenance brands.  
  
Bobcat Company makes its first appearance at the Consumer Electronics Show.  
  
R-Series loaders and R2-Series excavators launch during World of Concrete.  
  
Bobcat Company launches new small articulated loaders during CONEXPO-CON/AGG.  
  
The E165, the next model in the large excavator lineup, is announced at CONEXPO-CON/AGG.  
  
Electric concept machines are on display at CONEXPO-CON/AGG, including the S70e skid-steer loader, E17e compact excavator and all-electric T76e compact track loader.  
  
Bobcat Company brings the Next Is Now campaign to CONEXPO-CON/AGG.

