

# Homelite Opens Saw Research Lab

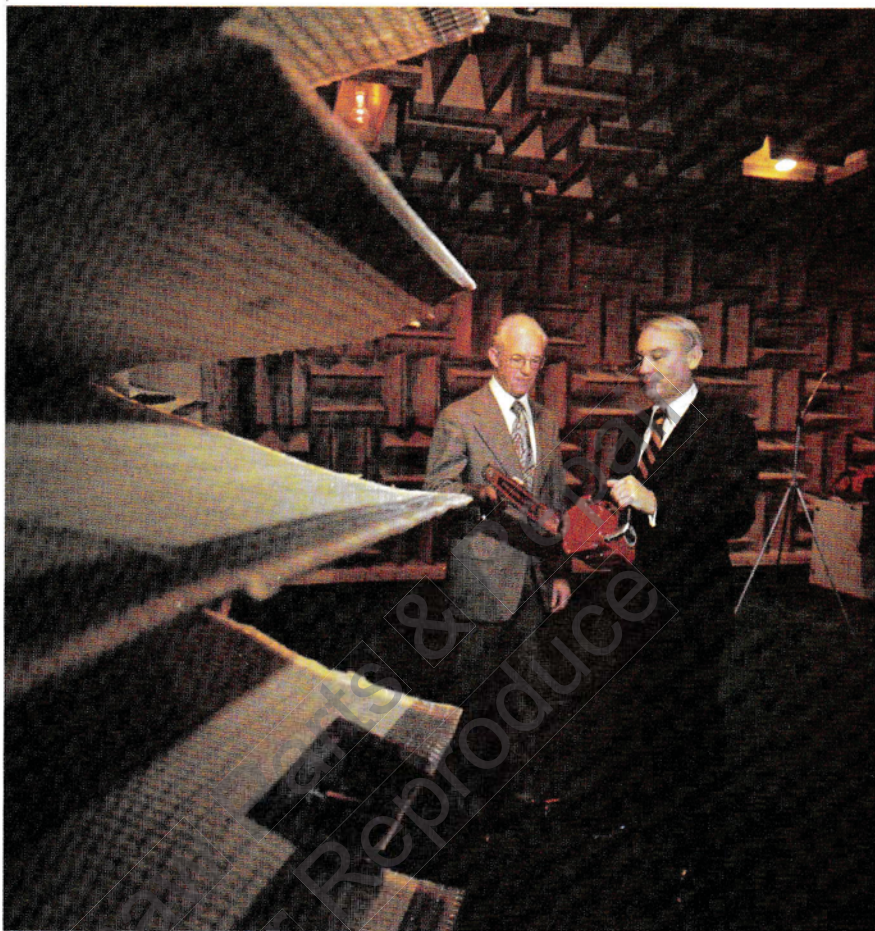
In ribbon cutting ceremonies recently, Homelite officially dedicated a multi-million dollar Engineering Laboratory that company President Franklin S. Atwater, called "the best equipped and most modern facility in our industry," located in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Homelite, one of the United States' largest makers of chain saws and a leading supplier of mid-range construction equipment, built the laboratory in conjunction with its recent relocation to Charlotte.

The pre-cast concrete structure, which is connected to the Homelite headquarters building by a glass-enclosed passageway, devotes 36,000 square feet of space entirely to the research, development and testing of Homelite products. The laboratory was completed in November, 1975, and will be staffed by more than 80 engineers, technicians and model makers.

All operations are under the supervision of Vice President, Engineering, Heinz A. Jaffe.

The laboratory's facilities include a fully-equipped machine shop to fabricate virtually any part required for chain saws or construction equipment and a pattern shop to make patterns for sand castings required in the early stages of development. A modern metallurgical and chemical laboratory, a special anechoic chamber to determine operating sound levels of equipment



INSPECTING HOMELITE Super 2 consumer chain saw inside sound chamber in new Engineering Laboratory are G. William Miller, right, chairman of the board, Textron Inc., and Homelite President Franklin S. Atwater.

and an environmental test chamber designed to test equipment operating over a temperature range of -40° to 120° F are also included.

Separate development and endurance test cells are part of the laboratory's chain saw testing facilities, which also house a field test crew that exposes development units on a continuing basis to actual operating conditions in the field.

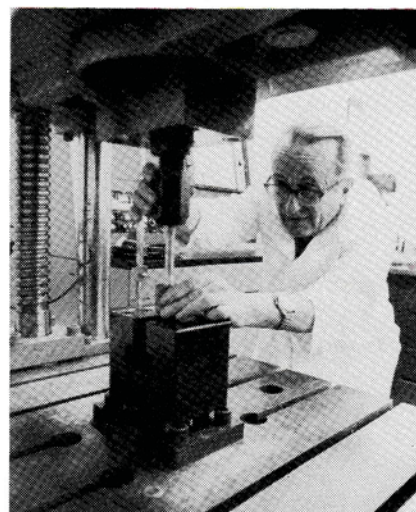
The new facility also has specific test cells to support the development and testing of construction equipment, such as pumps, generators, heaters and compactors. Included is a pump performance room, which consists of a 36-foot pit for testing the lift and priming time of Homelite pumps.

"Naturally, we are very proud of this new building and are expecting it to help us better serve our customers," added Atwater. "A product is only as good as its design

and test procedures. This laboratory gives us greater control over these vital elements," he concluded.



MILLING MACHINE OPERATOR Al Nicholson drills spark plug hole in chain saw engine cylinder in fully equipped model shop area at Homelite's new engineering laboratory.



TECHNICIAN Frank Trelles tests tensile strength of chain saw part at new Homelite metallurgical and chemical laboratory.