

MAR14-2013-030200

Abstract for an Invited Paper  
for the MAR14 Meeting of  
the American Physical Society

**Pake Prize: The Evolving Nature of Industrial Research**

W. DALE COMPTON, Purdue University

The support of basic research in the physical sciences expanded rather quickly in the late 1950s and into the 1960s stimulated, in part, by the successful contribution of the scientific effort to the Second World War. Many in industry took on the challenge of creating research activities that focused on basic research. Many of these activities slowed in the 1970s and 1980s because of events in the economy and the marketplace. The challenges confronting the industrial research complexes were many. Retaining the high standards of quality in the research organization, encouraging partial realignment of programs to be more supportive of product lines and the various pressures arising from legislative measures to increase product efficiencies while reducing unwanted pollutants into the atmosphere, to name a few. Some of the highlights of the past 50 years will be reviewed using automotive industry examples. There will be another talk from Paul Grant for the next 36 minutes. I do not have his abstract yet but it has been requested.