



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Heinz Joseph Gerber Papers

NMAH.AC.1336

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Heinz Joseph Gerber Papers
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.1336
Date:	1924 - 1999
Extent:	3 Cubic feet
Creator:	Gerber, H. Joseph, 1924-1996
Language:	English .
Summary:	Records document the life and career of H. Joseph Gerber, inventor and president of Gerber Scientific, Inc. Gerber was known for his invention of the variable scale, GERBERcutter S-70, and other automated industrial devices. The records include personal records, correspondence, biographical sketches, photographs, publicity, journals and magazines, clippings, speeches, award information, and one audio recording.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The Archives Center received a twenty-four (24) cubic foot addendum of archival material from David Gerber, son of of Joe Gerber in 2014. The addendum was separated into two collections--the Gerber Scientific Instrument Company Records (AC0929) and the Heinz Joseph Gerber Papers (AC01336).

Processing Information

Processed by Tyler Stump (intern), finding aid written by Tyler Stump (intern), June 2015. Some personal records from the Gerber Scientific Instrument Company Records (AC929) were removed and inserted into the Heinz Joseph Gerber Papers when it was created. Records removed from the Gerber Scientific Instrument Company Records nclude one recording of *Young Man in a Hurry* (cassette tape) and records documenting Gerber's life, career, and awards.

Preferred Citation

Heinz Joseph Gerber Papers, Archives Center, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research but is stored off-site and special arrangements must be made to work with it. Contact the Archives Center for information at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Biographical / Historical

Heinz Joseph "Joe" Gerber was born in Vienna, Austria, on April 17, 1924. In 1940, Gerber escaped the Nazis and immigrated to New York City and then to Hartford, Connecticut, with his mother Bertha Gerber, a dressmaker. Gerber's father, Jacob, is presumed to have died in a concentration camp. Gerber attended Weaver High School and graduated in two years (1943). He attended Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in Troy, New York, on a scholarship and earned a bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering in 1947. As a junior at RPI, Gerber developed the Gerber Variable Scale, his first invention. The earliest version of the variable scale was fashioned from an elastic band removed from a pair of pajamas. Gerber created a rubber rule and scale that could flow with a curve, expand, contract, and turn a corner. The scale allows for direct reading of curves, graphs, and graphical representations, giving direct numerical readings of proportions, spacing and interpolation. The Variable Scale became the building block of what would become Gerber Scientific Instrument Inc.

With financial assistance from Abraham Koppleman, a newspaper and magazine distributor in Hartford, Gerber and Koppleman formed a partnership and incorporated Gerber Scientific Instrument Company in 1948. Gerber served as president, Koppleman as treasurer, and Stanley Levin as secretary. The manufacture of the Variable Scale was jobbed out and the distribution was conducted from Hartford. Gerber also worked as a design analytical engineer for Hamilton Standard Propellers of United Aircraft and for Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. Shares of Gerber Scientific Instrument Company were eventually sold to the public in 1961, and in 1978, the company changed its name to Gerber Scientific, Inc. In 1967, Gerber realized that the U.S. garment industry, due to a lack of automation, was faced with increasing overseas competition. Gerber's solution was to engineer the GERBERcutter S-70, a machine that cuts apparel quickly and effectively while using less cloth. In the 1960s and 1970s, Gerber developed the first series of precision, computer-driven cutting systems for the apparel industry called the Gerber Cutter. The cutters introduced automation to the garment industry.

Gerber holds more than 600 United States and foreign patents. Many of his patents relate to the United States apparel industry. In 1994, Gerber was awarded the National Medal of Technology by President Clinton for helping to revolutionize the optical, garment, automotive, and other industries. His pioneering achievements include:

- a generation of data readers (electromechanical devices that converted graphical data directly into computer readable format)
- projection systems that interactively converted information from aerial photographs for use in computers
- devices that plotted digital output data from computer cards or tape
- digital numerically-controlled drafting machines which verified the accuracy of the cutting path of numerical machine tools
- a photoplotter (drafting machine configured with a unique light source to directly draw high accuracy layouts of printed circuit board masters on photographic film or glass with light beams)
- systems with laser technology to draw at high speeds

Subsequent subsidiaries of Gerber Scientific, Inc., were: Gerber Garment Technology, Inc. (GGT); Gerber Scientific Products, Inc. (GSP); Gerber Systems Corp. (GSC), and Gerber Optical, Inc., (GO). GGT makes computer-controlled cutting and design equipment for apparel, automotive, aerospace and other industries. GSP produces systems for sign-making and graphic arts industries. GSC makes production systems for printing, industrial machinery and other industries. GO makes equipment for the optical-lens manufacturing industry.

In 1954, Gerber married Sonia Kanciper. They had a daughter, Melisa Tina Gerber, and a son, David Jacques Gerber. H. Joseph Gerber died on August 9, 1996, at the age of 72.

Sources

National Medal of Technology, 1994.

W. Joseph Campbell, "High Tech and Low Key as Gerber Scientific Mounts a Recovery Philosophy that Reflects Innovative Founder," *Hartford Courant*, May 16, 1994.

Scope and Contents

The Heinz Joseph Gerber Papers document Gerber's personal life and career as an inventor and president of Gerber Scientific, Inc. The records are arranged into six series and consist of biographical records, documentation of the *Young Man in a Hurry* broadcast, correspondence, publicity, speeches, and award records.

Arrangement

The collection is organized into six series.

Series 1: Biographical, 1924-1997

Series 2: Young Man in a Hurry, 1950, 1986

Series 3: Correspondence, 1943-1996

Series 4: Publicity, 1949-1995

Subseries 1: Articles, 1950-1995

Subseries 2: Clippings, 1949-1994

Subseries 3: Publicity, 1949

Series 5: Speeches, 1952-1996

Series 6: Awards, 1952-1997

Subseries 1: Outstanding Young Man of the Year, 1952-1955

Subseries 2: R.P.I. Honorary Degree, 1981

Subseries 3: Textile Institute Companion Status, 1992-1994

Subseries 4: National Medal of Technology, 1993-1995

Subseries 5: Heinz Award, 1995

Subseries 6: Other Awards, 1988-1997

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Immigrants -- 20th century
- Inventions
- Inventors
- Machine-tool industry
- Machine-tools

Types of Materials:

- Articles
- Clippings
- Speeches

Names:

- Gerber Scientific Instrument Company (Hartford, Conn.).

Geographic Names:

- Hartford (Conn.)

Container Listing

Series 1: Biographical , 1924 - 1997

Series 1: Biographical, 1924-1997, contains personal records, letters of recommendation, educational documents, biographical sketches, obituaries, lists of patents, and photographs of Gerber and his family. The personal records contain Gerber's certificate of naturalization, birth certificate, membership cards, and family financial documents. Letters of recommendation were written on Gerber's behalf by employers before Gerber founded the Gerber Scientific Instrument Company in 1948. The majority of the educational documents are from Gerber's four years as an engineering student at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (R.P.I). Hamilton Standard records consist of engineering work and drawing made by Gerber while he was an employee at the aircraft propellor manufacturing company in the late 1940s and early 1950s. Biographical sketches and obituaries describe Gerber's life and his impact on engineering, technology, and American industry. The photographs are primarily publicity shots from Gerber's position as president of Gerber Scientific, Incorporated, though there are some family photographs in this series as well. Materials are arranged chronologically within folders.

Box 1, Folder 1	Certificate of Naturalization, 1946
Box 1, Folder 1	Birth Certificate, 1943
Box 1, Folder 1	Membership Cards, 1943 - 1947
Box 1, Folder 2	Family Financial Documents, 1948 - 1961
Box 1, Folder 3	Letters of Recommendation, 1946 - 1947
Box 1, Folder 4	Transcripts, 1943 - 1946
Box 1, Folder 4	Scholarships, 1943 - 1946
Box 1, Folder 4	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, 1943 - 1952
Box 7, Folder 3	Hamilton Standard, 1947 - 1951
Box 1, Folder 4	Post-Bachelor's Education, 1950 - 1963
Box 1, Folder 5	Biographical Sketches, 1950 - 1994
Box 1, Folder 6	Obituaries, 1996 - 1997
Box 1, Folder 7	List of Patents, 1951 - 1999
Box 1, Folder 8	Photographs, 1924 - 1994

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Series 2: *Young Man in a Hurry*, 1950, 1986

Series 2: *Young Man in a Hurry*, 1950-1986, contains scripts, correspondence, background material, publicity, congratulatory letters, photographs and one audio recording from the February 28, 1950 radio broadcast of *Young Man in a Hurry. Cavalcade of America*, a radio drama series sponsored by the DuPont Company from 1935 to 1953, featured stories of American history, particularly those that featured individual courage, achievement, and technological progress. Gerber's personal journey from a war refugee to successful inventor and business entrepreneur was turned into a heroic example of a modern day "Horatio Alger tale." Actor Cornel Wilde performed as Joseph Gerber while Virginia Payne was program narrator and voice of his mother, Bertha Gerber. There are draft versions and final copies of the show's script, as well as from later broadcasts of the program. Correspondence is between Gerber; Abraham Koppelman; Batten, Barton, Durstine & Osbourn Inc. (the advertising firm that produced the show); and other radio agents regarding the logistics of the *Young Man in a Hurry* broadcast. There is also one letter from Cornel West to Gerber reminiscing about the show nearly forty years later in 1986. Background material contains bibliographical and other personal information about Gerber that was used to write the show's script. Publicity materials consist of newspaper and other materials announcing the *Young Man in a Hurry* broadcast, and articles describing the broadcast after its February 28th premiere. Congratulatory letters are from friends and other well-wishers, including a number from staff members at R.P.I. This series also contains photographs of the script and of Joseph and Bertha Gerber visiting the voice actors in the NBC recording studio. The final item in this series is a cassette tape recording of the 1950 broadcast of *Young Man in a Hurry*. Materials are arranged chronologically.

Box 1, Folder 9	Scripts, 1950 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 10	Correspondence, 1950, 1986
Box 1, Folder 11	Background Material, 1950
Box 1, Folder 12	Publicity, undated
Box 1, Folder 13	Congratulations, 1950
Box 1, Folder 14	Photographs, 1950 Image(s)
Box 1, Folder 15, Item OTC 1336.1	<i>Young Man in a Hurry</i> , undated 1 Sound cassette

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Series 3: Correspondence, 1943 - 1996

Series 3: Correspondence, 1943-1996, primarily contains letters between Gerber and Abraham Koppelman (1943-1948) about Gerber's citizenship and invention of the Gerber Variable Scale. There are also some letters written to Gerber by employees on the eve of their retirement thanking him for his friendship and recounting personal recollections of working with Gerber at G.S.I. There is also one letter from aircraft engineer Charles H. Kaman thanking Gerber for his letter of recommendation for the 1996 National Medal of Technology.

Box 1, Folder 14	Abraham Koppelman, 1943 - 1948
Box 1, Folder 17	Professional Engineering License, 1951 - 1952
Box 1, Folder 18	Gerber Industries Employees, 1985, 1989
Box 1, Folder 19	Charles H. Kamen, 1996

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Series 4: Publicity, 1949 - 1995

Series 4: Publicity, 1949-1995, is arranged into three subseries: Subseries 4.1: Articles, Subseries 4.2: Clippings, and Subseries 4.3: Publicity. The series contains journals and magazines, newspaper and magazine clippings, and publicity for the Gerber Variable Scale. Articles are mostly from engineering and industrial trade journals and discuss the Variable Scale and Gerber's other inventions. There are also several issues of R.P.I. alumni magazines that discuss Gerber and his achievements since graduating in 1947. Clippings are primarily from newspapers and a few magazines, and discuss topics such as Gerber's inventions, accomplishments, awards, and role in the *Young Man in a Hurry* broadcast. Publicity materials were created shortly after the founding of Gerber Scientific Instruments in 1947 and consist of manuals, photographs, form letters, and articles promoting Joseph Gerber and his Variable Scale. Materials are arranged chronologically within each subseries.

Subseries 4.1: Articles, 1950 - 1995

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Box 2, Folder 1 | "From DP to VIP in 13 Years", circa 1950 |
| Box 2, Folder 2 | <i>Nation's Business</i> , 1949
Image(s) |
| Box 2, Folder 3 | <i>R.P.I. Alumni News</i> , 1950 |
| Box 2, Folder 4 | <i>Civil Engineering</i> , 1951 |
| Box 2, Folder 6 | <i>Engineering News-Record</i> , 1951 |
| Box 2, Folder 7 | <i>Quick</i> , 1953 |
| Box 2, Folder 8 | <i>Reader's Digest</i> , 1993 |
| Box 2, Folder 9 | <i>Rensselaer: The Alumni Magazine</i> , 1994 |
| Box 2, Folder 10 | <i>Emanuel News</i> , 1994 |
| Box 2, Folder 11 | <i>Case Reports</i> , 1995 |

Subseries 4.2: Clippings, 1949 - 1994

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Box 2, Folder 12 | Clippings, 1949 - 1994 |
|------------------|------------------------|

Subseries 4.3: Publicity, 1949

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Box 2, Folder 13 | Publicity for Gerber Variable Scale, 1949 |
|------------------|---|

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Series 5: Speeches, 1952 - 1996

Series 5: Speeches, 1952-1996, is the largest series and is arranged chronologically. Records include notes and full text copies of speeches given by Gerber, mostly in his capacity as president of Gerber Scientific, Inc. Almost all the speeches in this series are related to Gerber Scientific, Inc. and its activities. The earliest speech was given by Gerber in 1952 when he accepted one of the 10 Outstanding Young Men of the Year awards from the National Junior Chamber of Commerce. Most speeches were given between the early 1970s and Gerber's death in 1996. Many early speeches were given to G.S.I. employees condemning recent union-organizing efforts in the company and calling on employees to vote against union membership in company elections. Other common topics seen throughout this series include overviews of the company, new inventions and other large significant corporate initiatives, fiscal reports, addresses to shareholders, award acceptance speeches, press conferences, addresses at trade shows, and annual meeting speeches. Some folders also contain draft copies of speeches with editing notes written on them.

Box 2, Folder 14	Outstanding Young Man of the Year Acceptance Speech, 1952
Box 2, Folder 15	Weaver High School Scholarships Committee, 1952
Box 2, Folder 16	Opening of New Plant, 1968
Box 2, Folder 17	Union "Vote No" Speech, 1970
Box 2, Folder 18	Vote Against Union Speech, 1970 October 4
Box 2, Folder 19	"Win the I.A.M. Program", 1970
Box 2, Folder 20	I.A.M. Pension Program, 1970
Box 2, Folder 21	New Plant Opening, 1970
Box 2, Folder 22	G.S.I. Employee Meeting, 1971 June 9
Box 2, Folder 23	Address to Shareholders, 1972 August 1
Box 2, Folder 24	Interactive Design System, 1973
Box 2, Folder 25	Fiscal Year Report, 1974 June 10
Box 2, Folder 26	G.S.I. Employee Meeting, 1974 December 24
Box 2, Folder 27	Talk Given by Cliff Robinson to Semi-Annual IACD Convention, Cherry Hill, New Jersey, 1975 May 15
Box 2, Folder 28	G.S.I. Employee Meeting, 1975 June 9

Box 2, Folder 29 The GERBERcutter System Presented at the Winter Annual Meeting of the AMSE, 1975

Box 2, Folder 30 Recession/Annual Meeting, 1976 April

Box 2, Folder 31 G.S.I. Employee Meeting, 1976 December 17

Box 2, Folder 32 Fiscal Year Report, 1977 April 20

Box 2, Folder 33 Fiscal Report, 1977 December 9

Box 2, Folder 34 "GGT Talk" , 1977 December

Box 2, Folder 35 G.S.I. Employee Meeting, 1977

Box 2, Folder 36 Gerber Apparel Manufacturing, circa 1977

Box 2, Folder 37 "GSI Talk" , circa 1977

Box 2, Folder 38 Annual Fiscal Year Speech, 1978 May 20

Box 3, Folder 1 Pre-Vacation Speech, 1978 July 21

Box 3, Folder 2 The Use of Numerical Controls in the Garment and Allied Industries, 1978

Box 3, Folder 3 Gerber Photoplotters, circa 1978

Box 3, Folder 4 "Review and Outlook" Presentation Before the New York Society of Analysts, 1979 April 25

Box 3, Folder 5 Gerber Photoplotters, circa 1979

Box 3, Folder 6 Gerber Scientific and the 80's, 1980 February 22

Box 3, Folder 7 Annual Fiscal Meeting, 1980 March

Box 3, Folder 8 Eli Whitney Award Acceptance Speech, 1980 May 6

Box 3, Folder 9 "Review and Outlook" Presentation Before the New York Society of Analysts, 1980 May 19

Box 3, Folder 10 G.S.I. Employee Meeting [Union Vote], 1980

- Box 3, Folder 11 Annual Meeting, "Introduction to Gerber Scientific Inc. With Year End Results for Subsidiaries" , 1980
- Box 3, Folder 12 Junior Achievement Award, 1980
- Box 3, Folder 13 MP26 Unveiling, circa 1980
- Box 3, Folder 14 "Return from Overseas" Speech, circa 1980
- Box 3, Folder 15 R.P.I. Speech, 1981 May 4
- Box 3, Folder 16 Press Conference Held At Waldorf Astoria on Automation and Productivity, 1981 March 25
- Box 3, Folder 17 Fiscal Year Report, 1981 May 26
- Box 3, Folder 18 Hartford State Technical College, 1981 June 4
- Box 3, Folder 19 Hartford State Technical College Commencement Address, 1981 June 7
- Box 3, Folder 20 Teamsters Union Speech, 1981 October 14
- Box 3, Folder 21 G.S.I. Employee Meeting [Union Vote], 1981 November 18
- Box 3, Folder 22 Technology Speech at Beer-Sheva, Israel, 1981
- Box 3, Folder 23 Introduction to Gerber Scientific, Inc. For the C.S.I. Co. Annual Sales Meeting, 1981
- Box 3, Folder 24 Fiscal Report to Stockholders, 1981
- Box 3, Folder 25 "Visions of the Future" [Fashion Industry], 1981
- Box 3, Folder 26 G.S.I. Employee Holiday Address, 1982 December 17
- Box 3, Folder 27 Visions of the Apparel Production Facility of the Future, 1982
- Box 3, Folder 28 G.S.P. Groundbreaking Speech, 1983 June 7
- Box 3, Folder 29 Clothing Institute Speech, 1983 June
- Box 3, Folder 30 Overview of Gerber Scientific, 1983 September 12

Box 3, Folder 31 "Putting Advanced Technology to Work for the Apparel and Textile Industries"
F.I.T. Conference, 1984 November 26

Box 3, Folder 32 Annual Meeting/Stockholders Meeting, 1984

Box 4, Folder 1 Presentation to International Licensing Executives Society, 1984 November 15

Box 4, Folder 2 "Advancing Technology for the 1990's" Cologne Trade Show, 1985 May 23

Box 4, Folder 3 "Technology for the Apparel Industry: A Global View by H.J. Gerber," France,
1985 May 23

Box 7, Folder 1 "Signs of Success" Sign Graphic Systems- Commercial Graphics Division- 3M,
1985 June 6

Box 4, Folder 4 "Les Technologies Nouvelles Face A La Mode" [Speech in English], 1985 June
21

Box 4, Folder 5 Atlanta, Georgia Speech [Apparel Industry], 1985 September 9

Box 4, Folder 6 Montgomery Securities Speech, 1985 November 11

Box 4, Folder 7 Presentation in Vienna/Munich, 1985 November 18

Box 4, Folder 8 Stockholders Meeting, 1985

Box 4, Folder 9 Apparel Industry Speech, 1986 April 11

Box 4, Folder 10 GCT Users Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, 1986 September 22

Box 4, Folder 11 Annual Meeting, 1986 September 24

Box 4, Folder 12 First Boston Conference, 1986 December 9

Box 4, Folder 13 G.S.I. Overview, Moscow Speech, 1987 April

Box 4, Folder 14 G.S.I. Overview, 1987 June 3

Box 4, Folder 15 Interstate Securities, 1987 September 22

Box 4, Folder 16 Mabon Nugent Presentation, 1987 October 5

Box 4, Folder 17 Annual Report, Bonnell Visit, 1987 October 15

Box 4, Folder 18 Annual Report, Second Quarter, 1987 October 31

Box 4, Folder 19 3rd Quarter Report, 1988 January 1

Box 4, Folder 20 Fiscal Year 1988 Results, 1988 June 14

Box 4, Folder 21 Annual Meeting 1988, 1988 September 13

Box 4, Folder 22 American ORT Federation Tribute Dinner, 1988 November 30

Box 4, Folder 23 Mabon Nugent Conference, 1988 November 30

Box 4, Folder 24 "The Fabric of the Future" , 1989 January 19

Box 4, Folder 25 3rd Quarter Results, Fiscal Year 1989, 1989 January 31

Box 4, Folder 26 "The Next Decade...Tough Choices," AAMA 55th Annual Meeting, 1989 May

Box 4, Folder 27 Fiscal Year 1989 Results, Wertheim Conference, 1989 June 8

Box 4, Folder 28 Lifetime Achievement Award, H. Joseph Gerber Presentation, 1989 June 21

Box 4, Folder 29 G.S.I. Overview Speech, 1989 August 29

Box 4, Folder 30 Wertheim Conference, 1990 April 3

Box 4, Folder 31 G.O.S.P. Distributor Meeting, 1990 July 26

Box 4, Folder 32 Annual Meeting Speech, 1990 September 5

Box 7, Folder 2 G.S.I. Overview, 1990 October 5

Box 4, Folder 33 Speech to Employees at Willy's, 1990 October 11

Box 5, Folder 1 Boston Security Analysts Presentation, 3rd Quarter, 1990

Box 5, Folder 2 Speech to Employees [Outline Only], circa 1990

Box 5, Folder 3 G.S.I. Overview, 1991 January 7

Box 5, Folder 4 Wertheim Conference, 1991 April 4

Box 5, Folder 5 Investment Analyst Presentation, 1991 August 19

Box 5, Folder 6 Annual Meeting Speech, 1991 September 4

Box 5, Folder 7 Investment Analyst Presentation, Wessels, Arnold, and Henderson, 1991 September 20

Box 5, Folder 8 Investment Analyst Presentation, First Hanover Securities, 1991 October 16

Box 5, Folder 9 Investment Analyst Presentation, Smith Barney Hartford, 1991 December 4

Box 5, Folder 10 Robert J. Maerz Retirement, 1991

Box 5, Folder 11 Wertheim Conference, 1992 April 1

Box 5, Folder 12 "Survival of the Fittest" [Brazil], 1992 March 4

Box 5, Folder 13 Annual Meeting Speech, 1992 September 24

Box 5, Folder 14 "Survival of the Fittest" , circa 1992

Box 5, Folder 15 Annual Meeting Speech, 1993 September 8

Box 5, Folder 16 "December 1993 Presentation" [G.S.I. Overview], 1993 December 7

Box 5, Folder 17 Wertheim Conference, 1994 March 30

Box 5, Folder 18 G.S.I. Position Changes, 1994 April 4

Box 5, Folder 19 Annual Meeting Speech, 1994 September 9

Box 5, Folder 20 National Medal of Technology Acceptance Speech, 1994

Box 5, Folder 21 Gerber Samab Presentation, 1995 March 7

Box 5, Folder 22 Wertheim 1995 Presentation, 1995 March 29

Box 5, Folder 23 Connecticut Medal of Technology Acceptance Speech, 1995 June 8

Box 5, Folder 24 Annual Meeting Speech, 1995 October 13

Box 5, Folder 25 Museum of American History Exhibit, 1996 January 22

Box 5, Folder 26 "To the Class of 1996" , 1996 March 26

Box 5, Folder 27	Annual Meeting Speech, 1996 September 27
Box 5, Folder 28	Spiritual Profit and Loss, undated
Box 5, Folder 29	<i>Vanity Fair</i> Presentation on U.S. Productivity, undated
Box 5, Folder 30	Florence Speech, undated
Box 5, Folder 31	Patent Speeches, undated

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Series 6: Awards, 1952 - 1997

Series 6: Awards, 1952-1997, is made up of materials related to the many awards that Joseph Gerber was given throughout his career. Records include nomination materials, publicity, correspondence, award ceremony materials, congratulations, and photographs. This series is arranged into several subseries for significant awards Gerber received: the 1952 Outstanding Young Man of the Year, 1981 Honorary Doctorate of Engineering from R.P.I., 1993 Companion Status from the Textile Institute, 1994 National Medal of Technology, 1995 Heinz Award, and other awards. The largest subseries contains materials from the National Medal of Technology award and is organized into several folders by document type. The National Medal of Technology is the United States' "highest technology award" and is given to individuals, groups, and companies that have had major impacts on "American job creation, economic prosperity, increased competitiveness, and a higher standard of living." In 1994, President Bill Clinton gave the prestigious award to Gerber for his invention of the variable scale and GERBERcutter and for other advancements in automation in the signmaking, apparel, and eyewear industries. Other materials are arranged chronologically by award date and then chronologically.

Subseries 6.1: Outstanding Young Man Of the Year, 1952 - 1955

Box 5, Folder 41

Subseries 6.2: R.P.I. Honorary Degree, 1981

Box 5, Folder 42

Subseries 6.3: Textile Institute Companion Status, 1992 - 1994

Box 6, Folder 1

Subseries 6.4: National Medal of Technology, 1993 - 1995

Box 6, Folder 2 Nomination Materials, 1993 - 1994

Box 6, Folder 3 Award Ceremony Materials, 1994

Box 6, Folder 4 Media Coverage Report, Volume 1, October 6, 1994

Box 6, Folder 5 Media Coverage Report, Volume 2, April 27, 1995

Box 6, Folder 6 Publicity, 1994 - 1995

Box 6, Folder 7 Congratulations from International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, 1995

Box 6, Folder 8 Photographs, 1994

Subseries 6.5: Heinz Award, 1995 - 1995

Box 6, Folder 9

Subseries 6.6: Other Awards, 1988 - 1997

Box 6, Folder 10

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