







Count Roland von Faber-Castell

The world economic depression caused a serious fall-off in the pencil business. The two companies A.W. Faber-Castell and Johann Faber entered into a cooperative agreement, so as to make more efficient use of their production plant and keep costs down.

In the course of the years that followed, Count Roland bought up all the shares in Johann Faber, the company founded by Lothar's brother, and with them the Brazilian subsidiary Lapis Johann Faber in São Carlos. In

1935 A.W. Faber-Castell acquired the well-known fountain-pen company Osmia, based in Dossenheim near Heidelberg. Then in 1948 Count Roland set up a

factory in Konstanz. It made the TK, a new mechanical pencil for technical illustrators and artists, another international success. The factory at Geroldsgrün, that had originally made school slates, became one of the world's major producers of slide rules.

After the Second World War, Count Roland set about reacquiring the foreign subsidiaries that had been confiscated, and founded new sales organizations and factories in Ireland, Austria, Argentina, Peru, and Australia. The Count's repurchase in 1967 of a majority holding in Lapis Johann Faber SA in São Carlos proved a wise step: this company now owns the world's largest factory for colour pencils.

