

History since 1914 ...

At the turn of the twentieth century, a young Scotsman named Bill P. Marr immigrated to Ontario, Canada. After settling in the Toronto area, Marr was soon employed by the T. Eaton Company as a contractor for Ontario Hydro, where he worked as an electrician converting gas lit homes to electrical incandescent lighting.

As part of this conversion, the accepted practice back then was a process called "solder and tape". Typically, a mechanic would first run the wires required, then an electrician would polish the exposed conductors and twist them together. Next, the ends of the wires would be firmly joined by dipping them in a pot of molten solder, and after they cooled, the wires would then be wrapped with an insulating tape.

Over time, this process proved to be both time consuming and dangerous, as Bill Marr discovered first-hand when he inadvertently spilled a scorching solder pot while working in a customer's home. Convinced that there had to be a safer and more efficient way of joining

two electrical conductors, Marr worked tirelessly in his basement shop until he finally invented the first pressure type wire connector (a set screw version which was the forerunner to the modern day wire connector).

Since that day in 1914, the Marr® company has become a leading manufacturer of twist-on wire connectors throughout North America. The Marrette® brand has so revolutionized the way branch circuits were connected that the term "marrette" has become synonymous with "wire connector" in the electrician's vocabulary.

And since being acquired by T&B in 1997, this highly respected Marrette® brand name has become an integral part of the vast Thomas & Betts product offering to the construction market.

