



Company:	Optimax Systems Inc.
Headquarters:	6367 Dean Parkway Ontario, NY 14519-8939
Year Founded:	1991
Total Number of Employees Worldwide:	375+
President:	Joe Spilman
CEO:	Rick Plympton
Website:	http://www.optimaxsi.com/

Optimax Continues to Leverage Rochester's OPI Assets:

Optimax manufactures high precision optical components for a wide variety of photonics applications, with a focus on high-end, advanced technologies. The company is one of the largest manufacturers of precision optics in the United States.

Optimax has a long-standing partnership with NASA: they have been involved in every Rover NASA has sent to the surface of Mars, as well as other key programs in aerospace, government research, and defense. Additionally, Optimax is involved in medical technologies, semiconductor, military defense, solar and digital technology areas.

In June 2022, a little after the company's 30-year anniversary, Optimax announced another expansion in Ontario, NY. The company is investing more than 20 million dollars to add 36,000 sq. ft. of manufacturing space to their existing facility. Up to 50 new jobs will be created, and roughly 380 positions retained. From modest beginnings working in a barn in Webster, Optimax is now a leading optics manufacturer in America.



*Case study prepared by Greater Rochester Enterprise.
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Why Rochester?

There are two major reasons for Optimax to expand in the Greater Rochester, NY region. First, Optimax was ‘born and raised’ in Rochester. As the company’s new President Joe Spilman shares, “Optimax and our other local optics companies carry Rochester’s flag out in the industry, and we represent this community as one of the most important optics ecosystems in the world.”

Aside from the company’s roots, higher education is extremely important to their success. With some of the top optics programs in the nation, Rochester-area colleges and universities are an ideal recruiting ground for the technicians that Optimax needs.

The optics workforce pipeline comes from a strong network of local colleges and universities, like Rochester Institute of Technology, University of Rochester, and Monroe Community College. This creates an unmatched optics workforce pipeline. Many of Optimax’s technicians graduated from MCC’s Optics program, one of its kind anywhere in the United States.

Mike Mandina, Chairman, Joe Spilman, President, and Rick Plympton, CEO, all received advanced degrees from Rochester-area universities in engineering, optics, and business management. For more information on OPI resources in Rochester, go to <https://rochesterbiz.com/optics-photonics-imaging/>.