

The Scientists Behind the Science

Lewis Latimer

Lewis Latimer was an electric lighting pioneer and a patent law expert who helped other inventors, including Thomas Edison, in the race to build the first successful electric light businesses. In the 1880s, Latimer was awarded a patent for his method of making **filaments**, the delicate threads that glow inside incandescent light bulbs, and supervised the installation of some of the first incandescent lighting plants in New York City and Canada. The Edison Electric Light Company hired Latimer to assist in defending its own patents. In 1918, Latimer was named to the elite group of 100 "Edison Pioneers" connected to Edison's early work.



Hakeem Oluseyi

In the 1990s, Hakeem Oluseyi helped design and build a spacecraft that pioneered important new methods for imaging the Sun and its corona. Later, he was awarded patents for his inventions related to manufacturing semi-conductors. Combining characteristics of conductors and insulators, semi-conductors are used in computers, LEDs, and many other electronic devices.