



John Nelson/The Times-Advocat

Supplying you with the shirt on your back

Yvette Angulo of Silk Screen Shirts in Rancho Bernardo decorates a T-shirt with a manual silk-screen press. In the silk-screening process, a different stencil and color of paint are placed on each screen. The screens are then pressed, one at a time, onto a shirt to

create a complete, four-color image. Most of the T-shirts printed at Silk Screen Shirts are done by machine, as seen in background, but small orders are still done by hand.

The company was founded in 1969 by two San Diego State University business students, Steve Tay-

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lor and Dean Oliver. The pair got into the business when they offered to print some T-shirts for their fraternity house. They soon took on orders from other fraternities and sororities. When they graduated, Oliver went on to law school and became an attorney, and Taylor, an Es-

condido resident, stayed with the business. He has recently taken in a new partner, Laura Wile of Mission Hills.

The company has grown steadily through the years. Although Taylor won't discuss sales, he said the company now prints 60,000 to 70,000 shirts a day and has about 100 employees. About 90 percent of the company's sales are to restaurants, which buy custom-made T-shirts and the company's own line of restaurant uniforms. The

company also serves the surfwear industry and has won printing contracts for special events such as Super Bowl XXII and the major league baseball and National Basketball Association playoffs.

To keep up with demand, the company will move this winter from its present 20,000-square-foot location in the Rancho Bernardo Industrial Park into a new, 45,000-square-foot building under construction in 4S Ranch northwest of Rancho Bernardo.