Slide 1

Good afternoon, my name is Aaron Vesperman. I'm **excited** to be here today at MIT. Let me briefly share with you **why** I'm here.
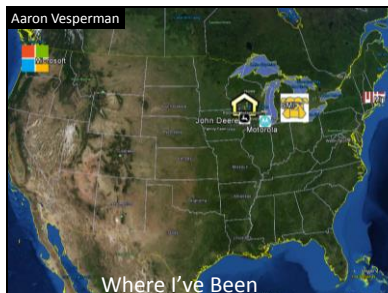
Slide 2

I grew up on farm in the state of Wisconsin. My parents raised hogs and beef cattle while growing corn, soy beans and other vegetables. I helped with chores and **especially enjoyed** harvest times when I could take sweet corn and strawberries to the local farmers market.

I learned about computers when my dad purchased an Apple II to manage the farm. My brother and parents now operate a corn maze and pumpkin patch on the farm alongside the fields of corn.

Their technology use has grown to include computers that are much smaller, faster, and capable than the Apple II -including iPads for point-of-sale purchases and GPS guided tractors. It's **amazing** to see the increased productivity as a result of new technologies.

Slide 3

After finishing college at General Motors Institute in Michigan, I was privileged to work at **great technology** companies including Rockwell Automation, Motorola, Microsoft and recently John Deere. Each was an **opportunity** to design **safer**, or **more productive** solutions for **people**.

At John Deere I'm building technology to help feed, clothe and shelter the world. I'm proud to work for a company that is committed to those **people** who are linked to the land.

Slide 4

And this is why I'm here at MIT today. I like making things for people that help people. I want to learn new skills to create a better world for my family and future generations to enjoy.