

Telecommunications Evolution Timeline

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Telecommunications began in 1876 with Alexander Graham Bell inventing the telephone; since then many advancements have been made to make the telephone better and more complex for society.



1876: Alexander Graham Bell invents the telephone

1881: Bell Telephone Company purchases Western Electric Company

1885: The Bell Telephone Company formed a new subsidiary called American Telephone & Telegraph (AT&T)

1885 (March 3): AT&T becomes incorporated

1889 Almon B. Strowger invents switch having line contacts in circular rows inside a cylinder controlled by push-buttons on telephone.

1891: Invention of 1,000 line switch with disc bank having ten concentric rows of line contacts. Not used commercially. Formation of Strowger Automatic Telephone Exchange.

1915: Alexander Bell makes first Coast-to-Coast call from New York to San Francisco.

1946: mobile telephones are placed into commercial use in St. Louise, Missouri. The beam traveling-wave tube is announced by Bell labs, which is an important amplifier for broadband communications.

1949: Telephone calls reach a volume of 180 million a day.

1968: Bell Systems chose 911 as an emergency number. The city of Huntington, Indiana was the first to use the system.

1969: ARPNET was formed and thus the internet which connected Stanford University and UCLA.

1972: The first email is sent.

1983: The first commercial cellular phone system is introduced in Chicago.

1992: The World Wide Web (Internet for public use) is born by CERN physicist Tim Berners Lee.

Here some legal decisions that helps with the evolution of the telephone and communication systems we have today.

1956: Telco tariffs did not permit customers to add even shoulder rests, let alone noise reducing Hush-a-Phone cup over the microphone. In North Carolina, one was not permitted to place a cover on a telephone directory. (This latter issue was stricken by order of the North Carolina Supreme Court.) The Hush-a-Phone court decision was important because it permitted customer-provided equipment that a privately beneficial and not publicly harmful could be connected to the network.

1973: Docket 19419 on Pricing of Datasets opened up the necessary technical background for Docket 19528 which led to the development of Part 68. This docket also established a Federal-State Joint Board. Docket 20003 was an economic study prepared by the Commission for Congress to show estimated economic effects of permitting private ownership of telephone terminal equipment an permitting competition in interstate telecommunications. The File Transfer Protocol (FTP) is introduced making it

easier to transfer data information. Harvard grants a PhD to Bob Metcalf . His thesis describes Ethernet.

1976: The telephone companies support "The Consumers Communications Reform Act of 1976" H.R. 12323, which was endorsed by more than 90 members of the House. This proposed legislation would have retained the telephone companies' monopoly. The FCC counters with its Docket 20003, Economic Implications and Interrelationships Arising from Policies and Practices Relating to Customer Interconnection, Jurisdictional Separations and Rate Structures .Resale and sharing of carrier services permitted. Other Common Carriers (OCCs) now have access to telco Foreign Exchange (FX) and Common Control Switching Arrangement (CCSA) private network facilities

Reference:

Timeline of Telecommunications (1998).

- A compilation of various timeline and historical date references/sources –

retrieved from <http://www.telephonetribute.com/timeline.html>

Fascinating facts about the invention of the telephone by Alexander Graham Bell in 1876
(1997-2007)

retrieved from <http://www.ideafinder.com/history/inventions/telephone.htm>