

History of the Internet

by

Arthur H. Hendela, Ph.D.

Professor of Practice,

NJIT

IS117

NJIT

New Jersey Institute of Technology

What is the Internet?

FORMAL DEFINITION:

"The Internet, a loosely-organized international collaboration of autonomous, interconnected networks, supports host-to-host communication through voluntary adherence to open protocols and procedures defined by Internet Standards [1]."

MY DEFINITION:

A collection of multiple different pieces of computer and non-computer equipment talking to one another by means of a communications network either wired or wireless.

When Did The Internet Start?

- Oct 4, 1957 – Russia puts Sputnik into orbit.
- Feb 7, 1958 – Space exploration assigned to Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA)
- Oct 1, 1958 – NASA opens for business via Eisenhower executive order



More Key Dates

- July 1961 – Leonard Kleinrock of MIT – First paper on packet switching theory.
- August 1962 – J.C.R. Licklider of MIT – memos on “Galactic Network Concept”
- Oct 1969 – Larry Roberts – heads project that connects first two ARPANET sites – UCLA and Stanford Research Institute.
- Oct 1972 – Bob Kahn – demonstrates ARPANET at the International Computer Communication Conference (ICCC)

Internet Breakthroughs

- March 1972 – Ray Tomlinson – First basic email program using “@”
- May 1974 – Vinton Cerf & Ray Kahn - A Protocol for Packet Network Interconnection
- 1978 – TCP and IP split
- 1980 – Tim Berners-Lee – writes predecessor to WWW
- Nov 1983 – Jon Postel, Paul Mockapedis, and Craig Partridge design the Domain Name System (DNS)
- 1990 – Tim Berners-Lee creates World Wide Web
- 1993 – Marc Andreessen – Develops Mosaic web browser
- 1996 – Microsoft vs Netscape - Browser wars

NJIT

New Jersey Institute
of Technology