

Internet Timeline

- 1957** USSR launches Sputnik, the first artificial satellite. In response, the U.S. forms ARPA (Advanced Research Projects Agency) within the DOD (Department of Defense). The main goal of the project was to establish a military research network that would be resistant to enemy attack.
- 1960s** The Proposal of the Packet Switching Network emerges. Packet switching is the concept of breaking down data into packets, which are transmitted across the network. If one of the packets gets lost along the way, another packet can be sent.
- 1969** ARPANET commissioned by the DOD.
- 1971** Ray Tomlinson invents email program that allows users to send messages across a network.
- 1976** The Queen of England sends her first email.
- 1982** First definition of "Internet" as a connected set of networks is used when TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol and Internet Protocol) is established.
- 1984** Domain Name System (DNS) is introduced allowing users to type host names (e.g. www.mpl.org) rather than memorizing numerical Internet Protocol (IP) addresses (e.g. 204.62.131.129).
- 1988** Internet Relay Chat is developed allowing users to chat in *real* time.
- 1992** Veronica, a gopher-space search tool, is released by University of Nevada; World Bank goes online; and the expression "Surfing the Internet" is coined.
- 1993** MOSAIC, the first WWW browser is released (Marc Andressen and NCSA), the White House goes online (<http://www.whitehouse.gov>), and an email account is created for the President of the United States (president@whitehouse.gov).
- 1994** Yahoo, an Internet Search Tool, is developed by two Ph.D. candidates from Stanford University and Pizza Hut customers can place an order online.
- 1995** RealAudio technology is released, dial-up systems begin to provide Internet access for home use (e.g. America Online, CompuServe, and Prodigy), and Netscape goes Public.
- 1998** The US Postal Service begins to offer users the ability to purchase, download, and print stamps from the Web.
- 2005** YouTube.com is launched.
- 2006** There are an estimated 92 million Web sites online, with well over 7 billion indexable pages.
- 2007** Search engine giant Google surpasses Microsoft as "the most valuable global brand," and also is the most visited Web site.
- As of September, 69% of the U.S. population (234 million) use the Internet. Worldwide, there are 1,244,449,601 users.

*For more information on the History of the Internet, visit the Hobbes' Internet Timeline [<http://www.zakon.org/robert/internet/timeline>].