

Cell Phones - Cell phone GPS

Cell Phones

Believe it or not, cell phones have a longer history than the radio. Cell phones started off in the 1920's and radios were first used in 1921. Some of the cell phone features were used in radios way back in the 1940's. Police used these radios.

The idea of the cellular phone was developed in 1947 as a mobile car phone. Bell Laboratories (also known as Bell Labs and formerly known as AT&T Bell Laboratories and Bell Telephone Laboratories) produced the concept of the cellular phone by introducing cells for mobile phone base stations.

Russell Ohl developed the photovoltaic cell (a device that converts light energy into electrical energy.) In 1943, Bell developed SIGSALY (also known as the X System, Project X, Ciphony I, and the Green Hornet), the first digital scrambled speech transmission system used in World War II for the highest-level Allied communications. SIGSALY is not an acronym. It was intended to look like an acronym but it was just a cover name. SIG was common in Army Signal Corps names. The prototype was called Green Hornet because it sounded like a buzzing hornet to anyone trying to eavesdrop on the conversation.

Motorola has a long history of making automotive radio, especially two-way radios for taxicabs and police cruisers. The first actual cell phone was invented in 1973 by Martin Cooper of Motorola and other assisting inventors. It was called the "radio telephone system." He used the idea of the car phone and applied the technology required to make a portable cell phone a reality.

In April 3, 1973, Cooper was the first person to make a call on a portable cell phone on to the amazement of the people walking on a New York City street. That first call was made on the first Motorola DynaTAC prototype to the head of research, Joel Engel, of the AT&T Bell Lab. This caused the technology and communications market to shift away from the place and toward the person. Cooper's vision for personal wireless communications was born.

In 1978, Bell Labs introduced the first commercial cellular network in Chicago using AMPS (Advanced Mobile Phone System). This was an analog mobile phone system. It became the primary analog mobile phone system in North America and is still widely available today, although it's used much less since the introduction of various digital standards.

Cell phones were first made available to the public in 1984 although they were very large, expensive instruments. The Federal Communications Commission worked together with AT&T and Bell Towers to establish broadcast towers. The towers were small with little power and covered a "cell" that was actually only a few miles in radius but could cover a larger area. Towers allowed calls to transfer from tower to tower.

On a side note, today Cell phone GPS is becoming very popular worldwide.

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