



# A Timeline Overview of Motorola History

1928—2009





A timeline overview of Motorola heritage from its founding as Galvin Manufacturing Corporation in 1928 to its position today as a global leader in communications and electronics. Events may be Motorola, industry or world firsts.

## 1920s

### 1928 **Founding of Company**

On September 25, 1928, Paul V. Galvin and his brother, Joseph, incorporated Motorola's founding company—the Galvin Manufacturing Corporation—in Chicago, Illinois, USA.



### 1928 **Battery Eliminator**

Galvin Manufacturing Corporation's first product was a 1928 battery eliminator. This power converter allowed battery-powered radios to run on household electricity. The company's first customer was Sears, Roebuck and Co., which sold battery eliminators to consumers.



## 1930s

### 1930 **First Motorola Brand Car Radio**

In 1930 Galvin Manufacturing Corporation introduced the Motorola radio, one of the first commercially successful car radios. Company founder Paul V. Galvin created the brand Motorola for the car radio—linking "motor" (for motorcar) with "ola" (which implied sound). Thus the Motorola brand meant sound in motion.



### 1930 **First Motorola Public Safety Radio Sales**

Galvin Manufacturing Corporation began selling Motorola car radios to police departments and municipalities in November 1930.

### 1936 **Police Cruiser Radio Receiver**

In 1936 Galvin Manufacturing Corporation introduced the Motorola Police Cruiser radio receiver, a one-way car radio designed to receive police broadcasts. The heavy-duty radio was tuned to a single frequency specified by the customer.





**1937 Home Entertainment Radios**

Galvin Manufacturing Corporation entered the home entertainment business in 1937 with a line of Motorola phonographs and home radios.



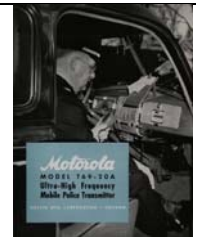
**1938 National Advertising**

The first Motorola national advertising campaign was underway by 1938. The campaign included print media, road signs and billboards.



**1939 First Motorola Two-Way Radio**

In 1939 Galvin Manufacturing Corporation introduced its first Motorola two-way radio. Public safety officers used the radio to transmit and receive voice communications from their cars.



**1940s**

**1940 Handie-Talkie SCR536 Radio**

In 1940 Galvin Manufacturing Corporation (later Motorola) engineers developed the Handie-Talkie SCR536 AM portable two-way radio. This handheld radio became a World War II icon.



**1940 Research and Development Program**

In 1940 Galvin Manufacturing Corporation (later Motorola) built its research and development program when Daniel E. Noble, a pioneer in FM radio and semiconductor technologies, joined the company as director of research.



**1940 Sporter Radio**

The 1940 Motorola Sporter personal sports radio let people hear commercial radio broadcasts on the go. The radio had an antenna in the shoulder strap.

**1941 First Motorola Commercial FM Two-Way Radio System**

Galvin Manufacturing Corporation introduced its first commercial line of Motorola FM vehicular two-way radio systems and equipment in 1941. The first Motorola FM system was installed in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA.

**1943 World's First FM Portable Two-Way Radio**

In 1943 Galvin Manufacturing Corporation (later Motorola) designed the world's first FM portable two-way radio, the SCR300 backpack model, for the U.S. Army Signal Corps. Weighing 35 pounds (15.9 kilograms), the "walkie-talkie" radio had a range of 10 to 20 miles (16-32 kilometers).

**1943 First Motorola Public Stock Offering**

Galvin Manufacturing Corporation sold its first Motorola public stock in 1943 for US\$8.50 per share.

**1946 Car Radiotelephone**

On October 2, 1946, Motorola communications equipment carried the first calls on Illinois Bell Telephone Company's new car radiotelephone service in Chicago, Illinois, USA.

**1947 Company Name Change**

In 1947 Galvin Manufacturing Corporation became Motorola, Inc.



## 1947 **Dispatcher Two-Way Radios**

The 1947 Motorola Dispatcher brand of vehicular two-way radios used new radio channels for industrial customers in the United States. Marketing and quality earned Motorola a leading role in the growing enterprise market.



## 1947 **Motorola's First TV**

Motorola's first television, the 1947 Golden View model, was affordable and popular. More than 100,000 units sold in one year.



## 1949 **Solid-State R&D**

In 1949 Motorola started a research and development laboratory in Phoenix, Arizona, USA, to research new solid-state technology.



## 1950s

### 1952 **Toronto, Canada, Subsidiary**

Motorola's first international subsidiary, Motorola Canada Ltd., opened in Toronto, Canada, in 1952. The facility produced radios and televisions.

### 1953 **Motorola Foundation**

In 1953 Motorola established the Motorola Foundation to support leading universities in the United States. The foundation later expanded to support science, math and technical education, and human services throughout the world where Motorola had a major operating presence.





## 1954 Television and Radio Sales

Televisions and radios were 70 percent of Motorola sales in 1954. Home radios, car radios and TVs featured stylish designs, colors and materials to appeal to 1950s consumers.



## 1955 Stylized "M" Motorola Logo

In June 1955 Motorola introduced a new brand logo, the stylized "M" insignia, or "emsignia." A company leader said the two aspiring triangle peaks arching into an abstracted "M" typified the progressive leadership-minded outlook of the company.



## 1955 World's First Commercial High-Power Transistor

A 1955 Motorola germanium transistor for car radios was the world's first commercial high-power transistor. It was also Motorola's first mass-produced semiconductor.



## 1956 Robert W. Galvin, President

Robert W. Galvin, son of company founder Paul V. Galvin, became president of Motorola, Inc. in 1956.



## 1956 Motorola's First Pager

Motorola's first pager, the 1956 Handie-Talkie radio pager, could send a radio message to a specific person. Pagers began replacing public announcement systems in hospitals and factories.



## 1957 First Pay TV System

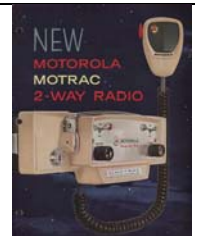
In 1957 Jerrold Electronics, later part of General Instrument



and Motorola, supplied equipment for the first experimental pay-TV system. The Telemovies service offered movies to subscribers through cable television in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, USA.

## 1958 **Motrac Vehicular Two-Way Radio**

In 1958 Motorola introduced the Motrac radio, the world's first vehicular two-way radio with a fully transistorized power supply and receiver. Its low power use enabled the radio to transmit without running the vehicle's engine.



## 1958 **Explorer I Satellite Radio**

Beginning in 1958 with Explorer I, an Earth-orbiting satellite, Motorola provided communications equipment for most NASA space flights for decades.



## 1959 **Motorola International, S.A.**

In 1959 Motorola established a subsidiary, Motorola International, S.A., to conduct licensing and manufacturing for international markets. An office opened in Zurich, Switzerland.

## 1960s

## 1960 **Astronaut TV**

The 1960 Motorola Astronaut television, a 19-inch model, was the world's first large-screen, transistorized, cordless portable television.





## 1962 HT200 Portable Two-Way Radio

Motorola introduced the transistorized Handie-Talkie HT200 portable two-way radio in 1962. It weighed 33 ounces (935 grams) and was nicknamed the "brick" because of its shape and durability.



## 1963 World's First Truly Rectangular Color TV Tube

In 1963 Motorola introduced the world's first truly rectangular color TV picture tube. The tube, developed in a joint venture with National Video Corporation, quickly became the industry standard.



## 1964 Robert W. Galvin, Chairman and CEO

Robert W. Galvin became chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Motorola, Inc. on May 15, 1964.



## 1965 Automotive 8-Track Tape Players

With Ford Motor Company and RCA Corp., Motorola designed and manufactured 8-track tape players for the automotive market in 1965.



## 1965 Transistor Packaging Innovations

Motorola's innovative 1965 design for low-cost plastic-encapsulated transistors became a semiconductor industry standard.

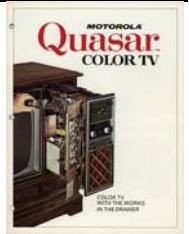






## 1967 **Quasar TV**

Motorola's 1967 Quasar color television had an innovative "Works in a Drawer" design that was easy to service.



## 1969 **First Words From the Moon**

A Motorola radio transponder relayed the first words from the moon to Earth in July 1969. The transponder aboard the Apollo 11 lunar module transmitted telemetry, tracking, voice communications and television signals between Earth and the moon.



## 1970s

### 1970 **Science Advisory Board Associates (SABA)**

In 1970 Motorola formed the Science Advisory Board Associates (SABA) to recognize outstanding technical contributions of exceptionally creative Motorola engineers and scientists.



### 1971 **Broadband Cable Network Standards**

In 1971 Motorola Chairman Robert W. Galvin urged the implementation of broadband cable networks and common network technical standards in the United States.

### 1972 **MODAT Vehicular Data Radio**

Motorola's 1972 MODAT mobile data radio system allowed users in vehicles to transmit data directly to and from dispatch computers.





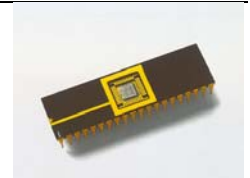
## 1973 **Prototype DynaTAC Portable Cellular System**

By 1973 Motorola demonstrated a prototype DynaTAC (DYNAmic Adaptive Total Area Coverage) portable radiotelephone cellular system. A low-power handset was a fundamental element of the system.



## 1974 **MC6800 Microprocessor**

In 1974 Motorola introduced its first microprocessor, the MC6800 8-bit model. The MC6800 microprocessor was used in automotive, computing and video game applications.



## 1974 **Coronary Observation Data Radio**

Motorola's 1974 Coronary Observation Radio (COR) allowed emergency personnel to transmit a patient's electrocardiogram data to a hospital.



## 1974 **Television Business Exit**

Motorola sold its television business, including the well-known Quasar brand, in 1974.

## 1975 **Apollo-Soyuz Radio**

Motorola transponders were used aboard the historic 1975 Apollo-Soyuz "Handshake in Space" docking mission. The American and Soviet space teams met in Earth's orbit to test an international docking system and joint flight procedures.

## 1975 **MX300 Portable Radios**

Motorola's 1975 MX300 series of portable two-way radios operated in the 900 MHz band. They included status, identification and emergency alert features that were compatible with computer-aided radio dispatch systems.





## 1976 **New Motorola Headquarters**

In 1976 Motorola's international headquarters moved to the Chicago suburb of Schaumburg, Illinois, USA.



## 1977 **Developmental DynaTAC Cellular System**

In 1977 the FCC granted a developmental license for a Motorola DynaTAC cellular system in the Washington, D.C.--Baltimore, Maryland, USA, metropolitan area. The system was operated by American Radio-Telephone Service, Inc.



## 1978 **RDX 1000 Data Radio**

Motorola introduced its first handheld two-way data radio, the RDX 1000 model, in 1978.



## 1980s

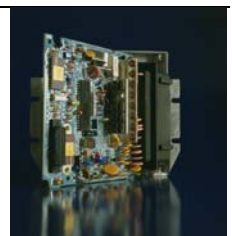
### 1980 **Ahwatukee Experimental Home**

Motorola was a sponsor of the experimental 1980 Ahwatukee home in Arizona, USA. Motorola technologies controlled information, security, entertainment, electrical, environmental and energy management systems for the home.



### 1980 **World's First Computerized Engine Control**

In 1980 Motorola and its automotive customers developed the world's first microprocessor-based engine control, the EEC III module. The module was designed to reduce fuel consumption and emissions.





## 1983 **World's First Commercial Portable Cellular Phone**

The world's first commercial handheld cellular phone, the Motorola DynaTAC phone, received approval from the U.S. Federal Communications Commission on September 21, 1983. The 28-ounce (794-gram) phone became available to consumers in 1984.



## 1983 **Motorola's First Cellular System**

Motorola's first DynaTAC cellular system began commercial operation in 1983. Over the previous 15 years, the company invested more than US\$100 million in cellular technology research and development.



## 1983 **KDT 800 Portable Two-Way Data Radio and Network**

In 1983 Motorola developed a radio network, later named ARDIS, that allowed IBM service technicians to use KDT 800 portable two-way data radios to communicate with host computers. The radios functioned as wireless computer terminals.



## 1984 **MC68020 Microprocessor**

In 1984 Motorola introduced the MC68020, the world's first true 32-bit microprocessor. The MC68020 microprocessor contained 200,000 transistors on a three-eighths-inch square chip.



## 1986 **William J. Weisz, CEO**

William J. Weisz became chief executive officer of Motorola, Inc. in 1986.





## 1986 **Bravo Pager**

Motorola introduced the Bravo numeric pager in 1986. It became the world's best-selling pager.



## 1986 **Six Sigma Quality Process**

Motorola invented the Six Sigma quality improvement process in 1986. Six Sigma provided a common worldwide language for measuring quality and became a global standard.



## 1988 **George M.C. Fisher, CEO**

George M.C. Fisher became president and chief executive officer of Motorola, Inc. in 1988.



## 1988 **First U.S. National Quality Award**

Motorola was one of three winners of the first Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award in 1988. The U.S. Congress established the award to recognize and inspire the pursuit of quality in American business.



## 1989 **MicroTAC Personal Cellular Telephone**

In April 1989 Motorola launched the MicroTAC personal cellular telephone, then the smallest and lightest model on the market.





## 1990s

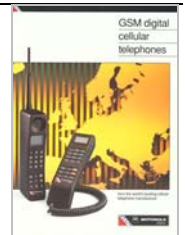
### 1990 **World's First Digital HDTV Technical Standard**

In 1990 a Motorola business—then known as General Instrument Corporation—proposed the world's first all-digital HDTV (high-definition television) technical standard. General Instrument's DigiCipher System could be transmitted over a single VHF or UHF channel, cable or satellite.



### 1991 **World's First GSM Cellular System**

Motorola demonstrated the world's first GSM (Global System for Mobile Communications) working-prototype cellular system and phones in Hanover, Germany, in 1991.



### 1991 **ASTRO Digital Two-Way Radio**

Motorola's ASTRO two-way radio system was one of the first commercial digital radio systems in the industry in 1991.



### 1993 **Gary L. Tooker, CEO**

Gary L. Tooker became vice chairman and chief executive officer of Motorola, Inc. in 1993.



### 1994 **CableComm Interactive System**

The 1994 Motorola CableComm interactive system allowed home cable subscribers to make telephone calls and access the Internet at higher data rates through home cable television systems.





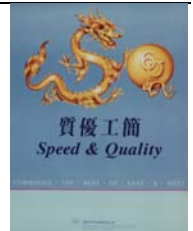
## 1994 **iDEN Digital Radio**

In 1994 Motorola introduced iDEN digital radio, the world's first commercial digital radio system that combined voice dispatch, cellular, paging and data communications in a single radio network and handset.



## 1995 **MC68328 DragonBall Microprocessor**

Introduced in 1995, Motorola's DragonBall MC68328 microprocessor was used in consumer electronics such as handheld video games and personal digital assistants. A Motorola team in Hong Kong developed the chip.



## 1995 **FORTE CommPad Data Radio**

In 1995 Motorola introduced the FORTE Wireless CommPad which contained a two-way data radio and pen-based user interface. The ruggedized handheld device was developed for public safety, utilities and other industries with a mobile workforce and won the 1995 Industrial Design Excellence Award for communications equipment.



## 1995 **World's First Two-Way Pager**

In 1995 Motorola introduced the world's first two-way pager, the Tango two-way personal messaging pager. It allowed users to receive text messages and email, and reply with a standard response. It also could be connected to a computer to download long messages.



## 1995 **RESCU Telematics System**

In 1995 Motorola developed technology for the Remote Emergency Satellite Cellular Unit (RESCU), a telematics system for 1996 Lincoln automobiles.





## 1996 **StarTAC Wearable Phone**

When introduced in 1996, Motorola's StarTAC wearable cellular telephone was the world's smallest and lightest. It weighed just 3.1 ounces (88 grams).



## 1997 **Christopher B. Galvin, CEO**

Christopher B. Galvin, grandson of founder Paul V. Galvin, was elected chief executive officer of Motorola, Inc. in 1997.



## 1997 **Motorola's First TETRA System**

In 1997 Motorola's first commercial TETRA (Trans European Trunked Radio) digital radio system began operations at Oslo Airport in Gardermoen, Norway.



## 1997 **WisdomPen Chinese Handwriting Software**

Motorola introduced the WisdomPen Chinese handwriting recognition system for portable communication devices in 1997.



## 1999 **iDEN i1000plus Handset**

Introduced in 1999, Motorola's iDEN i1000plus handset was the world's first to combine a digital phone, two-way radio, alphanumeric pager, Internet microbrowser, email, fax and two-way messaging.



## 1999 **Symbol Technologies National Medal of Technology**

Symbol Technologies, Inc. (later Motorola) was awarded the 1999 National Medal of Technology, the United States' highest honor for technological innovation.





## 2000s

### 2000 **World's First GPRS Cellular System**

In June 2000, Motorola and Cisco Systems, Inc. supplied the world's first commercial GPRS (General Packet Radio Service) cellular network to BT Cellnet in the United Kingdom. The system used the world's first GPRS cellular phone, the Motorola Timeport P7389i model.



### 2000 **Mission-Critical Wireless Data**

In 2000 Motorola tested the world's first 700 MHz wideband high-speed data system for public safety users, enabling advanced mission-critical solutions. Pinellas County, Florida, USA, police, fire and EMS services deployed the trial system in 2001.



### 2001 **IP-Based Digital Communication**

In 2001 Motorola's Project 25 and TETRA-compliant IP-based wireless communications systems enabled two-way radio users to transfer pictures, fingerprints, video and Internet-based data.



### 2002 **Canopy Wireless Broadband**

Introduced in 2002, Motorola's Canopy wireless broadband platform enabled Internet service providers to deliver affordable and reliable high-speed Internet access to homes and small businesses.



### 2002 **Motorola's First 3G Nationwide Network**

In 2002 Motorola launched its first 3G nationwide voice and data network using CDMA 1X technology with KDDI, a large wireless operator in Japan. The technology enabled Internet access at speeds more than double that of existing networks.



**2002 World's First Wireless Cable Modem Gateway**

In 2002 Motorola's SURFboardAE SBG1000 cable modem gateway was the world's first to combine a high-speed cable modem router with an ethernet switch and wireless home gateway. It enabled cable TV subscribers to use their cable connection to share Internet access and to network multiple computers wirelessly.

**2003 A760 Cellular Phone**

Introduced in 2003, the Motorola A760 cellular phone was the world's first handset to combine a Linux operating system and Java technology with full PDA functionality.

**2004 Edward J. Zander, Chairman and CEO**

Edward J. Zander became chairman and chief executive officer of Motorola, Inc. in January 2004.

**2004 Freescale Semiconductor**

Freescale Semiconductor, Inc., formerly Motorola's Semiconductor Products Sector, became a separate public company on December 2, 2004.

**2004 MOTORAZR V3 Cellular Phone**

In 2004 Motorola introduced the RAZR V3 cellular phone, an ultraslim, metal-clad, quad-band flip phone. The 13.9mm thin phone used aircraft-grade aluminum to achieve several design and engineering innovations, including a nickel-plated keypad.

**2005 Carbon Nanotube Display**

In 2005 Motorola Labs demonstrated a 5-inch color video display prototype using carbon nanotube technology.

**2005 MOTOMESH Broadband Radio Network**

In 2005 Motorola's MOTOMESH wireless mobile network was one of the first multiradio mesh networks to combine 4.9 GHz licensed mobile broadband radios and unlicensed Wi-Fi radios into a single access point. Mesh networking allowed public safety users to rapidly create a network of wireless devices linked in a relay system.

**2006 Motorola MING Smart Phone**

Motorola introduced the MING touch screen smart phone in Asia in 2006. It used advanced handwriting software to recognize more than 10,000 handwritten characters of the Chinese alphabet.

**2006 National Medal of Technology Ceremony**

In a White House ceremony in February 2006, Motorola received the 2004 National Medal of Technology, the United States' highest honor for technological innovation. Motorola was recognized "for over 75 years of technological achievement and leadership in the development of innovative electronic solutions, which have enabled portable and mobile communications to become the standard across society."

**2007 Symbol Technologies, Inc.**

Motorola acquired Symbol Technologies, Inc. in 2007 to provide products and systems for enterprise mobility solutions, including rugged mobile computing, advanced data capture and radio frequency identification (RFID).

**2007 World's First WiMAX 802.16e Mobile Handoffs**

Motorola demonstrated the world's first WiMAX 802.16e mobile handoffs in downtown Chicago on September 26, 2007. Users experienced live Web browsing and video streaming sessions on wireless computers while traveling in the city.



**2008 Gregory Q. Brown, CEO and Co-CEO**

On January 1, 2008, Gregory Q. Brown became chief executive officer of Motorola, Inc. He was named co-chief executive officer of Motorola with Sanjay K. Jha, and chief executive officer of Motorola's Broadband Mobility Solutions business, on August 4, 2008.

**2008 Sanjay K. Jha, Co-CEO and CEO**

On August 4, 2008, Dr. Sanjay K. Jha became co-chief executive officer of Motorola and chief executive officer of Motorola's Mobile Devices business.

**2008 APX Multi-Band Two-Way Radios**

Motorola introduced the APX family of Project 25 multi-band two-way radios in 2008. Designed with first responder input, APX radios work in the 700/800 MHz and VHF bands, and have custom-designed microphones, integrated GPS, and text messaging.

**2008 World's First LTE 700 MHz Data Demonstration**

In 2008 Motorola demonstrated the world's first over-the-air LTE (Long-Term Evolution) data session in the 700 MHz band. The test was achieved in Motorola labs and outdoors in Illinois, USA, using prototype equipment.

**2009 One Millionth TETRA Terminal**

In February 2009 Motorola announced shipment of its one millionth TETRA terminal. The customer receiving this milestone terminal was the Jordan Armed Forces (JAF).

