Vint Cerf

One of the fathers of the Internet

Cerf was a pivotal figure in developing the technology that established the foundations of the Internet as we know it today.

Early life and education



enjoyed mathematics and science from an early age. 1943

Born in Connecticut, Cerf

on a scholarship at Stanford, taking every computing class he could. 1962

He studied mathematics

1967

1965

ARPANET project at UCLA, meeting his future collaborator, Robert Kahn.

He worked on the

As a teen, he wrote software to analyze tests

1961

on Apollo F-1 rocket engines for Rocketdyne.

The beginnings of the Internet

After graduating he became a systems

engineer at IBM, supporting programming language, QUIKTRAN.

to teach in the computer

1972

science and electrical engineering departments.

He returned to Stanford



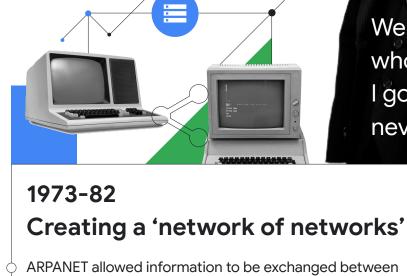
1972

Cerf continued engagement with the Advanced Research Projects Agency, which aimed to enhance command and control by linking computer networks together. Cerf co-developed a protocol called TCP/IP that allowed computers

to exchange data through a network

While teaching at Stanford,

of networks for the first time.



We were blasting open a whole new field... I got drawn into this and never escaped.

networks remained. In 1973, Cerf's colleague from ARPA, Robert Kahn, invited him to work on a new project to

diverse computers, but the problem of connecting different

address this issue. Cerf and Kahn developed a new transport layer protocol, TCP, which made it possible for devices in different networks to communicate with one another through a 'network of networks'.

TCP became TCP/IP and UDP/IP to accommodate real-time applications such as packet



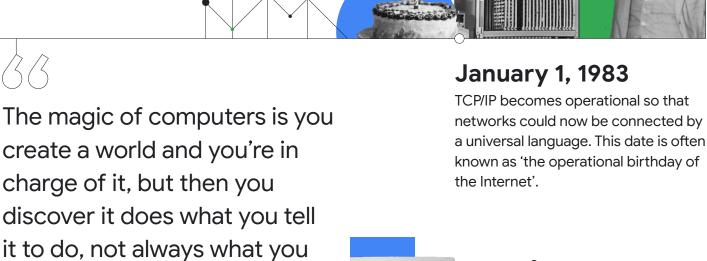
speech and radar tracking. In 1989 Sir Tim Berners-Lee

Transport Protocol (HTTP) riding

on top of the Internet's TCP/IP, leading to the World Wide Web.

developed the Hypertext

Cerf and Kahn didn't patent their technology - they wanted to reduce barriers to access so it could become an international standard to maximize the number of people who could benefit from it freely.





want it to do.

1982 - 86 MCI Mail - The further evolution of email Having worn hearing aids since the mid-1950s, Cerf has frequently chosen to work at companies that have invested in the development of accessible non-auditory communications like email.

I see the Internet as a shared

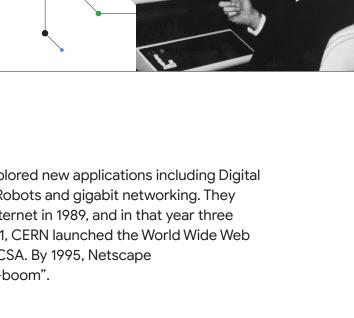
role to play in keeping it safe.

environment where we all have a

1986 - 94

In 1982, he joined MCI to develop an email service for them that had the potential to connect to any other commercial email service, Telex, Fax and even postal mail addresses.

Applications of the Internet Cerf joined CNRI with Robert Kahn in 1986. They explored new applications including Digital Libraries, Digital Object Architectures, Knowledge Robots and gigabit networking. They facilitated the interconnection of MCI Mail to the Internet in 1989, and in that year three commercial Internet services were launched. In 1991, CERN launched the World Wide Web and the MOSAIC Browser was released from the NCSA. By 1995, Netscape Communications had gone public starting the "dot-boom".



Mid-1990s onwards

Looking to the future -

president and Chief Internet Evangelist. He champions the spread of the Internet and its

a Solar System Internet.

Google's own Nostradamus

Cerf rejoined MCI in 1994 to help put them into the Internet business. In 2005 he joined Google as vice

accessibility and works towards preserving digital materials for future generations. In addition, he

works with NASA on the design and development of

He is famous for his predictions on how technology

1990s onwards A lifetime of recognition

1997 2001

"creating and sustaining development of Internet Protocols and continuing to provide leadership in the emerging industry of Internetworking". And many more... Cerf has also won the Japan Prize, Queen Elizabeth Prize for

Awarded the National medal

of Technology (with Kahn) for

and Internet.

will affect future society, and advocates for corporate and public social responsibility online in order to reduce behaviors harmful to society and its citizens.

Awarded the Charles Stark Draper Awarded the Presidential Medal Prize for 2001 with Kahn, Leonard of Freedom (with Kahn) for Kleinrock, and Larry Roberts creating software code that for their work on the ARPANET has "transformed global commerce, communication and entertainment".

2005

and the Legion d'Honneur....



Engineering, Prince of Asturias Prize, the Marconi Prize