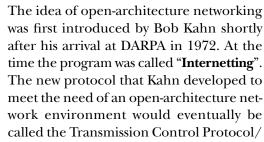# THE BIRTH OF THE INTERNET

The Internet has revolutionized the world of communication like nothing before. Nowadays the influence of the Internet is not limited to the technical fields of computer communications, but includes commerce, culture and society as a whole.

Its history is complex and involves many aspects. The first person to envision[1] a globally interconnected set of computers was Joseph C. R. Licklider, of Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), in August 1962. He was the first head[2] of the computer research programme at Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), starting in October 1962. In 1966, another MIT researcher named Lawrence G. Roberts developed the computer network concept and put together his plan for the **ARPANET**. In September 1969, Bolt, Beranek and Newman installed the first Interface Message Processor (IMP) at the University of California, Los Angeles, and the first host computer was connected. One month later, when the Stanford Research Institute was connected to the ARPANET, the first host-to-host message was sent. By the end of 1969, four host computers were connected together into the initial ARPANET and in the following years many other computers were added, while electronic mail was introduced in 1972.

GLOSSARY

1 to imagine
2 supervisor

The idea of open-architecture networking was first introduced by Bob Kahn shortly after his arrival at DARPA in 1972. At the time the program was called "**Internetting**". The new protocol that Kahn developed to meet the need of an open-architecture network environment would eventually be called the Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP).

The initial motivation for both the ARPANET and the Internet was resource sharing. E-mail was another fundamental aspect which provided a new model of how people could communicate with each other.

By 1983, ARPANET was being used by a significant number of defense and operational organizations.

By 1985, the Internet was well established as a technology supporting a broad community of researchers, and was beginning to be used by other communities for daily computer communications.

The Internet has changed profoundly since it came into existence and it will continue to change and evolve at the speed of the computer industry.

READING COMPREHENSION

ACTIVITIES

● *Answer the following questions.*

1 What role does the Internet play in our society?
2 Who was the first to develop a set of interconnected computers?
3 What was Internetting?

4 What does the acronym TCP/IP stand for?
5 What were the initial motivations of ARPANET?
6 Which field employed Internet technology in the 1980s?

WRITING

● *What were the main steps in the development of the Internet? Fill in the following chart.*

WHEN	MAIN EVENTS
AUGUST 1962	
OCTOBER 1962	
1966	
SEPTEMBER 1969	
OCTOBER 1969	
END OF 1969	
1972	
1983	
1985	