

Creative Labs launches Sound Blaster Card. The number of PCs purchased worldwide is 120 million.

1990

PC manufacturers introduce laptops with MS Windows and Intel 386SL designed for mobile computer. Commodore launches Amiga 3000 with Motorola 68030 processor. Macintosh Classic and IIsi are launched.

1991

Apple launches the PowerBook laptop. CDTV is launched by Commodore with a CD-ROM drive and no floppy drive.

1992

IBM launches ThinkPad 700 business laptop. PowerPC 601 is launched. A collaborative venture with IBM, Motorola and Apple computer. Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) launches Alpha AXP. The number of PCs purchased worldwide is 202 million.

1993

Pentium microprocessor is released.

1994

Motorola releases 68060 processors. Intel releases the 75, 90 and 100MHz versions of the Pentium processor. The number of PCs purchased worldwide is 288 million. Commodore International declares bankruptcy.

1995

USB is released. Intel releases 120, 133 MHz versions of Pentium processor. 3dfx releases 3D accelerator Voodoo.

1996

High-speed internet access becomes available over cable modems. Palm launches the Palm 1000 and 5000 devices. Digital Versatile Disc (DVD) is introduced at the Consumer Electronics Show. Nokia launches the 9000, smartphone. Intel releases 160, 166,

and 200 MHz Pentium Processor. Sony starts selling computers again under VAIO (Video Audio Integrated Operation).

1997

Intel introduces the Pentium II processor. The number of PCs purchased worldwide is 497 million. Recordable and rewritable DVD discs introduced. IBM Deep Blue becomes the first computer to beat a reigning world chess champion.

1998

Diamond Multimedia Systems, Inc introduces portable MP3 digital music technology with Rio PMP 300. Compaq Computer Corp buys Digital Equipment Corporation.

Intel releases 333 MHz Pentium II processor. Apple launches iMac with 15-inch monitor, 24x CD-ROM, 2 USB ports, 56k modem, speakers and Ethernet (no floppy). This is the pivotal model that saved Apple.

The number of PCs purchased worldwide numbers 590 million.

1999

AMD releases K6-III 400MHz. Apple launches the PowerMac G4 with PowerPC G4 Motorola chip.

Compaq begins to work with Microsoft on MSN companions.

2000

Sony Intel introduces Pentium III processor (1 GHz). Intel introduces the Pentium 4 processor. AMD releases Athlon 1GHz.

2001

20th anniversary of IBM's first PC. The number of PCs purchased worldwide is 961 million. USB 2.0 is launched. Apple releases Mac OS X.

2002

Intel introduces Mobile Intel Pentium 4 Processor-M allowing laptops to have desktop per-

formance. The number of PCs purchased worldwide reaches 1 billion, according to Gartner Dataquest. RIM releases the first BlackBerry smartphone. Compaq merges with Hewlett-Packard.

2003

Intel introduces Wi-Fi in their Centrino chip. AMD releases Athlon 64 built on K8 micro-architecture. First 64-bit processor. Wireless technology becomes mainstream.

2004

USB flash drive becomes the device of choice for sharing media and data. iMac G5 is launched by Apple.

2005

Nokia releases Nokia 770 Internet Tablet running Maemo (open source). Intel releases Pentium D and AMD releases Athlon 64 X2, both dual-core 64-bit desktop processors.

2006

Core 2 Duo by Intel launched with more power than Pentium 4 and better performance. Apple launches the MacBook Pro, the first Intel-based, dual-core mobile computer. Intel releases Core 2 processor.

2007

Apple launches the first iPhone. DDR3 Ram is launched. Intel launches Core 2 Quad processors. Asustek launches the netbook.

2008

Apple launches MacBook Air and the iPod Touch. HP launches HP 2133 Mini-Note PC.

2009

Apple launches iPhone 3GS. HP launches web-connected home printer.

2010.

Apple launches the iPad. Compaq Presario laptop ends production (re-branded as HP2000 series). Microsoft launches Windows 7 phone.

2011

Apple launches iPhone 4, 4S and the iPad 2. Intel launches Sandy Bridge. Sony launches the Sony Tablet, which runs on Google Android.

2012

Apple launches the iPad mini. 3D printers become more accessible. ■

