**THE HISTORY OF THE INTERNET**

Before there was the public internet there was the internet’s forerunner

ARPAnet or Advanced Research Projects Agency Networks. ARPAnet was funded by the United States military after the cold war with the aim of having a military command and control center that could withstand

**05** nuclear attack. The point was to distribute information between geographically dispersed computers. ARPAnet created the TCP/IP communications standard, which defines data transfer on the Internet today. The ARPAnet opened in 1969 and was quickly usurped by civilian computer nerds who had now found a way to share the few great

**10** computers that existed at that time.

Before the wide spread of internetworking that led to the internet,

most communication networks were limited by their nature to only allow

communications between the stations on the local network and the prevalente computer networking method was based on the central

**15** mainframe computer model.

Several research programs began to explore and articulate principles

of networking between physically separate networks, leading to the

development of the packet switching model of digital networking. These

research efforts included those of the laboratories of Donald Davies

**20** (NPL), Paul Baran (RAND Corporation), and Leonard Kleinrock at MIT and at UCLA. The research led to the development of several packet-switched networking solutions in the late 1960s and 1970s, including ARPANET and the X.25 protocols.

Additionally, public access and hobbyist networking systems grew

**25** Following commercialization and introduction of privately run Internet servisse providers in the 1980s, and the Internet’s expansion for popular use in the 1990s, the Internet has had a drastic impact on culture and commerce. This includes the rise of near instant communication by electronic mail (e-mail), text based discussion forums, and the World

**30** Wide Web. Investor speculation in new markets provided by these innovations would also lead to the inflation and subsequent collapse of the Dot-com bubble. But despite this, the Internet continues to grow, driven by commerce, greater amounts of on-line information and knowledge and social networking known as Web 2.0.