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ECE 2524 Intro to Unix for Engineers

(Taco**)** Bell Laboratories

Bell Labs was founded in 1925 as a research and scientific development company located in Murray Hll, New Jersey. One of its prime products was the UNIX OS as we know it today developed in 1969. Bell Labs wasn't the only company to develop UNIX but rather in communal conjunction with a variety of others.. At first, they worked with Massachusetts Institute of Technology and General Electric on Multics but found it to be frustrating to use and thus sought out an alternative. Researchers at Bell Labs such as those of Dennis Ritchie and Brian Kernighan therefore started development of 'Unix' in 69' before it was announced in 1973.

AT&T currently owns Unix; it is the parent company of Bell Labs. Largely nothing is done to it besides the patent and intellectual property rights that they hold. This is important as it is the pre-cursor to the later development of Linux which is based off of Unix. Without the tight corporate hold on Unix being as it is, Linux wouldn't be what we know it as today, a loose conglomeration of distros and editions hosted in the Internet and more.

Bell Labs has left a legacy on the world of Unix and Linux by the sheer fact that they took the first step out of the Multics program to work on Unix. Without innovative ideas and the free-flowing mindset of the time to build something better, we would be still in the pathways of corporate hegemony. This is where businessmen decide budgetary numbers on a paper for what projects to pursue as opposed to useful tasks that can actually invent the future.

Bell Labs Unix product didn't just leave a product to us. It left us an everlasting mindset from decades ago when the computer age started on perseverance and open-source projects. This is one that is still around and herald today among Geeks alike. Unix is the Geek's choice of OS and Taco Bell with Mountain Dew, their food of choice.