Joseph Molino

Professor Michael Sabal

September 27, 2018

The Microsoft Corporation

The Microsoft Corporation is one of the modern staples in major technology corporations today. We see and use Microsoft products every day of our life. The Microsoft company’s history, its products, and its rise to fame are what make the Microsoft company what it is today. All great ideas usually involve the innovation and determination of one man.

The history of Microsoft began with the with the birth of its main figure head of the company. Bill Gates was born in Seattle in the year 1955. In 1975, Bill Gates and Paul Allen wrote a version of BASIC that they would later sell to be used on Apple 2 for another company, Apple. Later that year, Bill Gates and Paul Allen would later relocate to Albuquerque, New Mexico and named their company Micro-soft. From 1978-2004 the employee count went from 13 to more than 56,000. (N.a. n.d. Microsoft Corporation - Company Profile, Information) Even though Bill Gates would later become the richest man he always believed in withholding enough money in the treasury to run the company without any income for a year. In 1980 Gates would hire Balmer, a close friend of his, to “organize the non-technical side of the business” (N.a. n.d. Microsoft Corporation - Company Profile, Information). Steve Balmer later stated “Our first major row came when I insisted it was time to hire 17 people. He claimed I was trying to bankrupt him” (N.a. n.d. Microsoft Corporation - Company Profile, Information). Even early into the company’s history, Gates was an avid saver. Bill Gates, the co-founder of Microsoft, is currently the world’s richest man. He has held it 4 years in a row and 18 years out of the past 23 years. His net worth is currently $86 billion dollars (The World’s Billionaires). Even though Bill Gates is the richest man, he came from an unassuming start.

From humble beginnings, the Microsoft company has become a big name in the technology industry. They have produced products such as Microsoft Office, the Xbox, and the Windows operating system have been big competitors in their respective genre (N.a. 2012, January 03. 13 Most Important Microsoft Product Lines.) These products from the company have produced billions for the company and continue to this day. The more recent years Microsoft has become an essential asset for any business or any education establishment. From their products such as Word, PowerPoint, Excel, and many others. They help companies organize and convey ideas. For school settings, it helps students organize and turn in assignments. It has become a staple in all classes in all schools. Most of the later grades now require students to use Word and PowerPoint for presentations and papers as school projects. Microsoft’s rise to fame is mostly contributed to its biggest products.

These inventions from the company of Microsoft have mostly contributed to the company’s rise. Microsoft has made a plethora of inventions, and Microsoft’s first big software to be produced was called Microsoft Word 1.0. It was made to compete against a program called WordStar. It was not a good release for the program as it was clunky, and it was not as user friendly as another application that came later called WordPerfect. It wasn’t until Word 3.0 which was heavily improved on and became Microsoft’s greatest selling product. Microsoft Excel was another big seller grossing over $1 billion dollars in revenue for the company, alone. The windows operating is what gave Microsoft such a big name and as the main distributer of operating systems. Almost every computer seen today, that is not Apple, is using Windows of some form. Some of the more popular ones, over the years, are Windows 2000, Windows XP, Windows 2003, Windows 7, and more recently Windows 10 (N.a. n.d. Microsoft Corporation - Company Profile, Information). In the first two days Windows 10 sold 14 million copies. (Gottsegen, G. 2015, July 31. 14 Million People Are Already Using Windows 10) The Xbox consoles also contribute a lot to the success of Microsoft. With its large community following it is one of the biggest console sellers in the world. The Xbox one sold about 26 million in the year 2016. (N.a. n.d. Xbox One sold 26 million units lifetime by end of last year – report) These products are all dependent on the customers and are based whether they like the product or not.

The consumer who buys Microsoft’s products, are what make it a huge name in technology corporations. Although Microsoft may be one of the newer companies it has grown to be the most diverse company now. (N.a. n.d. Microsoft Corporation - Company Profile, Information). The technology company Microsoft’s history, products, and rise to fame make it a powerhouse in the industry today. We use this technology every day and without it we would never have the organization and technology we have today.

Works Cited

1. Byrnes, J. (2010, September 21). How Microsoft Became MICROSOFT. Retrieved September 26, 2017, from <http://www.businessinsider.com/how-did-microsoft-become-microsoft-2010-9>
2. N.a. (2012, January 03). 13 Most Important Microsoft Product Lines. Retrieved September 26, 2017, from <https://redmondmag.com/articles/2012/01/01/13-most-important-microsoft-product-lines.aspx>
3. Gladys Rama, Scott Bekker. (2012, July 02). Who Are Microsoft's 'Most Competent' Partners? Retrieved September 26, 2017, from <https://rcpmag.com/articles/2012/07/01/microsofts-most-competent-partners.aspx>
4. Gottsegen, G. (2015, July 31). 14 Million People Are Already Using Windows 10. Retrieved September 26, 2017, from <https://www.wired.com/2015/07/14-million-people-already-using-windows-10/>
5. N.a. (n.d.). Microsoft Corporation - Company Profile, Information, Business Description, History, Background Information on Microsoft Corporation. Retrieved September 26, 2017, from <http://www.referenceforbusiness.com/history2/14/Microsoft-Corporation.html>
6. N.a. (2017, September 22). Forbes 2017: World's top 20 billionaires. Retrieved September 26, 2017, from <https://www.cbsnews.com/pictures/richest-people-in-world-forbes/21/>
7. N.a. (n.d.). The World’s Billionaires. Retrieved September 26, 2017, from <https://www.forbes.com/billionaires/list/#version:static>
8. N.a. (n.d.). Xbox One sold 26 million units lifetime by end of last year – report. Retrieved September 26, 2017, from <https://www.vg247.com/2017/01/18/xbox-one-sold-26-million-units-by-end-of-last-year-report/>