**Historical Overview:**

The first recognized work on eradicating noise from speech signal was documented in 1934 when Paul Lueg was granted the first patent for a noise control system. In his work, Paul Lueg explained his way to cancel sinusoidal tones in ducts by phase-advancing the wave and then by inverting the polarity to cancel random sounds in the area nearby an amplifier. Basically he developed a process of silencing disturbing sound oscillations or noise which was able to work independently of the main source of oscillation or speech. [1]

After this work of Paul Lueg, a lot of people started working on improving noise cancelation technique used by Paul and later in 1950, Lawrence J. Fogel designed a systems where he successfully canceled the noise in helicopter and airplane cockpits communication. This work of Lawrence J. Fogel was a milestone in the noise cancellation system development where he designed a system for supplementing a standard noise suppressor by eliminating the peaks of energy as well as the nulls of energy. He claimed his design to be able to increase the lucidity of speech in noisy environment significantly over the works done previously. [2]

References:

[1] <https://www.google.com/patents/US2043416>

[2] <https://www.google.com/patents/US2866848>