



## Dot-Dash to Dot.Com: How Modern Telecommunications Evolved from the Telegraph to the Internet (Springer Praxis Books)

By Andrew Wheen



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Telecommunications is a major global industry, and this unique book chronicles the development of this complex technology from the electric telegraph to the Internet in a simple, accessible, and entertaining way. The book opens with the early years of the electric telegraph. The reader will learn how the Morse telegraph evolved into an international network that spanned the globe, starting with the development of international undersea cables, and the heroic attempts to lay a trans-Atlantic cable. The book describes the events that led to the invention of the telephone, and the subsequent disputes over who had really invented it. It takes a look at some of the most important applications that have appeared on the Internet, the mobile revolution, and ends with a discussion of future key developments in the telecommunications industry.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

From the reviews:

“It serves as a primer for anyone with an interest or need to know about telecommunications. With its assumption of little technical knowledge, and bright writing style, Dot-Dash To Dot Com is perfect for a layman to read. ... Dot-Dash To Dot Com strikes a thoughtful balance between the technical and human history. ... I certainly enjoyed and learned from it.” (Bookbag, June, 2011)

“Wheen, an experienced UK-based telecommunications industry professional, presents a historical development of the telecommunications industry and demonstrates how inventions produced by the telecommunications revolution have changed the world. ... explains how the Internet works and what lies ahead. The book reserves the more detailed technical discussions for the appendixes. Well illustrated, with an extensive glossary of terms used by the telecommunications industry at the end. Summing Up: Recommended. All levels/libraries.” (F. A. Cassara, Choice, Vol. 48 (10), June, 2011)

“Dot-Dash to Dot Com by Andrew Wheen ... is extremely easy to get straight into due to the author's interesting historical facts and entertaining anecdotes of events that occurred in the early days of telecommunications. ... I would definitely recommend this book to anyone generally interested in scientific historical books or if studying a telecommunications course. I found it an extremely easy read, very informative, well laid out with lots of great photos, some in color.” (Hazel Jones, Engineering and Technology Magazine, Vol. 6 (3), March, 2011)

“Andrew Wheen has done an excellent job of making a potentially complex subject entertaining, informative and accessible. Communications technology is used by everyone, so the book is relevant to everybody ... . More technical detail is presented in a comprehensive section of footnotes - so 2 bookmarks are useful - and even more technical matters reside in Appendixes that might be the realm of the serious A level student or first year undergraduate. ... If you use the telephone read this book.” (W. Duncan, Amazon, July, 2011)

#### From the Back Cover

The profusion of websites and applications that characterise the modern Internet may seem a far cry from the primitive telegraph system of the late 1830s. There is, however, a direct link. The invention of the electric telegraph paved the way for telephone networks which, in turn, laid the foundations for today's Internet. In less than 170 years, simple arrangements of magnets, switches and cables evolved to become the largest and most complex machine in the world. How did this happen? What were the inventions that shaped modern communications? Who were the key players in this amazing story? How does the Internet work? And what is coming next? This fascinating and long-overdue book answers these and many other questions, bringing to life the characters, the times they live in, and the technological revolution that they brought about. Dot-Dash to Dot.com: - describes some truly heroic feats of 19th century engineering, and the impact that the first telecommunication systems had on the Victorian world; - reveals how the success of the electric telegraph led to the development of the telephone and the fax machine; - explores the early experiments that led to the Internet and the World Wide Web; - explains how networks work - and why they sometimes don't; - chronicles the phenomenal growth of mobile networks; - describes how the digital revolution is driving the introduction of "next generation networks;" - examines the extraordinary growth in network applications;

and - introduces a number of larger-than-life characters, whose inventive genius and entrepreneurial flair left an indelible mark on the modern world.

#### About the Author

Andrew Wheen has worked in the telecommunications field since 1982. He has held senior engineering and product management roles with major suppliers of telecommunications equipment and was one of the original architects of the Energis network in the United Kingdom (now Cable & Wireless). More recently, he has worked as a management consultant in the telecommunications and broadcasting industries. Dr. Wheen is a Fellow of the Institution of Engineering and Technology and is a Chartered Engineer. He is married with two children and lives near London.

### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

##### Tami Anders:

The feeling that you get from Dot-Dash to Dot.Com: How Modern Telecommunications Evolved from the Telegraph to the Internet (Springer Praxis Books) could be the more deep you rooting the information that hide inside words the more you get thinking about reading it. It does not mean that this book is hard to recognise but Dot-Dash to Dot.Com: How Modern Telecommunications Evolved from the Telegraph to the Internet (Springer Praxis Books) giving you joy feeling of reading. The article author conveys their point in specific way that can be understood by means of anyone who read the item because the author of this publication is well-known enough. This particular book also makes your own personal vocabulary increase well. It is therefore easy to understand then can go along, both in printed or e-book style are available. We propose you for having that Dot-Dash to Dot.Com: How Modern Telecommunications Evolved from the Telegraph to the Internet (Springer Praxis Books) instantly.

##### David Rivera:

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