

# A BRIEF HISTORY OF SHARE

1950s

The first official meeting of SHARE® is held in Los Angeles (August 1955), establishing the user group and calling it...

**SHARE: IT'S NOT AN ACRONYM, IT'S WHAT WE DO.**

1960s

The SHARE Operating System (SOS) for the IBM 709 System is completed, consisting of a new compiler-assembler-translator (SCAT), input/output subroutines, debugging utilities and the operating control program.

FORmula TRANslator, FORTRAN, is developed by a team led by John Backus, and becomes the first general-purpose high-level computer language generally available.

Fortran

**SHARE'ing Expands:** SHARE European Association (SEAS) [1961] and Japan SHARE [1963] are founded based on SHARE's collaborative user group model.

Work begins on a **Universal Computer-Oriented Language (UNCOL)**. The committee's results from a working meeting in Zurich are published as ALGOL 58.

**GUIDE International Corporation**, one of SHARE's primary "sister user groups", founded in 1956. Originally focused on business (the IBM 702/705), rather than scientific (704/709) applications.

**FUN FACT**

IBM builds and introduces the first floppy disk and *Computerworld* publishes its first issue.

SHARE and IBM jointly form the **Advanced Language Development Committee** in SHARE's FORTRAN project, leading to the development of the PL/I programming language.

1970s

The TSS White Paper, TSS: Today—Tomorrow—Future (SSD #214), is published noting that "enhancements of the computer for every user in the installation whether they be system programmers, applications programmers, computer operators or non-programmers is today's reality."

**FUN FACT**



SHARE becomes incorporated and the early SHARE logo is born from a sketch by John Ehrman.

**SHARE MAKES COMPUTERWORLD HEADLINES**

("SHARE Offers Data on MVT/MFT Fixes") as IBM agrees to allow 370/195 users to distribute the Large System Program Support (LSPS) code. OS/MVT-MFT project gets the nod for this success.

1980s

**FUN FACT**



**SHARE turns 25 at SHARE 55!**  
The event brings together the presidents of SHARE's global sister user groups for an historic meeting. This group evolved into the International User Group Council (IUGC).



SHARE's Button Man, Barry Merrill, displays his signature style and SHARE publishes first annual report.

**FUN FACT**

SHARE's white paper committee hits its stride and publishes the following key papers:

- Towards More Usable Systems: The LSRAD Task Force Report
- Establishment of a Data Base Administration Function
- Resource and Workload Management

*Data Processing in 1980-1985: A Study of Potential Limitations to Progress* is published based on the SILT Report.

**SHARE publishes critical White Papers:**

- Future Work Flow Management Subsystems (FWFM)
- Computing for the Information Age: The Report of the Interactive Systems Task Force (INTERSYS)
- Report of the Capacity Management and Planning Task Force, SHARE Software Service Task Force Final Report (SSTF)
- SHARE Engineering/Scientific Workstation Environment Task Force

SHARE debuts **SHAREnews** to provide member updates and support participation.



The SHARE Technology Exchange Expo premieres at SHARE 81 inviting the broader IT vendor community to actively participate and acknowledging the importance of the vast array of solutions available.

**FUN FACT**



SHARE 74 (1990) in Anaheim, CA records the highest attendance ever for a SHARE event with 5,806 attendees.

Open Systems Group, focused on IBM implementations of UNIX and OSI, debuts at the SHARE 77.5 Interim in Pittsburgh.

**ASCII and EBCDIC Character Set & Code Issues in Systems Application Architecture:**  
Under the leadership of Ed Hart, SHARE brokers a compromise between opposing factions that leads to today's unified approach. SHARE was the only user group represented on the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) division for the oversight of standards in Information Technology.

2000s

**FUN FACT**

The SHARE Award for Excellence in Technology is introduced and SHARE records 2,323 members.

SHARE participates in a number of IBM software pricing councils, defining new ways in which IBM begins to charge for software.

SHARE Webcasts debut to provide technical education between events. The first topic is "Computer Security" and draws over 300 participants.

SHARE commits to a stronger presence in standards activities and sponsors Dave Thewlis to become Convenor (Chairperson) for the U.S. national committee on Conformity Assessment, and subsequently Head of Delegation for the Special Working Group on Conformity Assessment (SWG-CA).



SHARE adopts its revamped logo and tagline.

2010s

SHARE launches ExecuForum, an annual event that presents opportunities for shared learning while delivering solution based discussions on current business challenges for the enterprise IT executive of today.

SHARE debuts online communities for year-round member participation. You can now find SHARE thought leadership via the President's Corner blog as well as on popular social networking sites like Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram.

SHARE welcomes two new communities: **zNTP** (New Technology Professionals) and **zNextGen**. zNTP is comprised of IBM staff and customers who formerly held their own dedicated training at IBM facilities. zNextGen is a community of IT professionals new to mainframe technologies.

SHARE conducts a formal review of OS/390 and later works with IBM to develop its packaging characteristics and to suggest improvements.

**SHARE updates its mission to...**

SHARE is an independent volunteer-run information technology association that provides **education**, professional **networking** and industry **influence**.

