Big ideas big impact

Over the past 50 years, bold ideas and actions from government have fueled American progress, solving complex challenges and bettering the lives of citizens.

Mastercard's® history is also one of innovation in payments and revolutionizing the relationships between consumers, businesses and governments. Mastercard's advances in security, data analytics and mobile payments are helping to shape the payments platforms of the future.

Government Timeline

From Sky to Space

The federal government forged the era aerospace technology, from developing military-grade jet engines eventually adapted for commercial use, to the enormous feats of space travel — most notably 1969's famed Apollo 11 moon landing.¹

Tell Me Where to Go

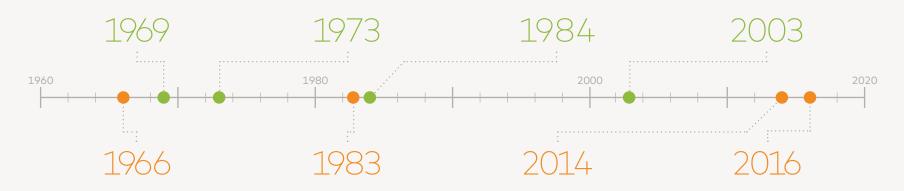
The Department of Defense (DoD) and National Institutes of Standards and Technology created the Navstar Global Positioning System (GPS) to assist American military aircraft. Today DoD continues to lead efforts to improve the accuracy of GPS technology. ¹

Put It on My Card

The General Services
Administration (GSA)
developed the first purchase
card (or P-Card), which sped
up organizations' purchasing
processes for certain products.²

Hey Siri

In 2003, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) invested \$150 million in a cognitive assistant project which resulted in a spin-off startup called Siri that was acquired by Apple in 2010. ¹



A National System

InterBank Card Association (ICA) is established creating a national open-loop credit card system. ICA would eventually be named, Mastercard in 1979.

Corporate cards

Mastercard Introduces the Mastercard Digital Enablement Services helps to power and the hologram security device — an industry first Mastercard Digital Enablement Services helps to power and the hologram security device wallets by turning cards numbers into digital token

Tap-and-Go

Mastercard Digital Enablement Services helps to power digital wallets by turning cards numbers into digital tokens, giving customers greater convenience and security in making everyday purchases.

Making Sure it's You

Mastercard unveiled its next-gen biometric card, which combines chip technology with fingerprints to verify the cardholder's identity.

Mastercard Timeline

While Mastercard has played a landmark role in the formation of the payments industry, at a time when innovation matters more than ever, our entire focus is on the future.



Sources

1. Singer, Peter L., The Information Technology & Information Foundation, "Federal Supported Innovation: 2 Examples of Major Technology Advances That Stem From Federal Research Support," February 2014. www.itif.org/2014-federally-supported-innovations.pdf 2. NAPCP. "Historical Insight on Commercial Cards." www.napcp.org/page/PCardHistory