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## **Process Paper**

When searching for our NHD topic, our group wanted a unique subject focused on Chicago-based technological inventions. When we found out that the first cell phone call was made in Chicago by a man named Martin Cooper, we researched him, finding out that he worked on designing the first cell phone. Working backward, we realized that Cooper had worked for Motorola, an electronics company based in the Chicago area. We then decided to focus on this revolutionary discovery and the company's history that led to the invention.

We started our research online in the Motorola Digital Archives. These contained many valuable primary sources and retellings of key stories that were easy to access. There, we also found and utilized a documentary filmed by Motorola. Next, we accessed the Chicago Public Library's website to research databases that would reveal Motorola's business history. Our group then visited the Harold Washington Library Center to borrow more books on the origins of Motorola and cell phones. We utilized newspapers from the time period and a municipal document addressing the Chicago Police Department to advance our argument. Then, we were able to contact Sue Topp, the manager of Motorola Solutions' archives, who was able to grant us access to Motorola's private archives for some primary source materials. Lastly, we went to the Sulzer Regional Library's archive to borrow valuable sources such as a biography on Motorola founder Paul Galvin and an archival book which detailed Motorola's early beginnings as a radio company.

We decided that our project would be best told through the textual analysis of images and videos, so we decided to make a website in order to properly organize this multimedia. First, we turned periods of Motorola history into miniature arguments for separate website pages. Then, we found all the photos that would fit our arguments and placed them accordingly. Finally, we compiled our arguments and advanced them with historical context, also including videos from the Motorola archives. Our group would work every day on the NHD Website Editor and discuss the material in video meetings. Our group also went to the Chicago History Museum for the Website Builder Seminar that helped us organize our website to our best interest.

While researching our topic, we found that Motorola broke many barriers with its inventions over time, fitting the NHD theme. Firstly, back when Motorola was the Galvin Manufacturing Corp., they were the first to put a radio in a car so anyone could listen to airwaves on the go. Next, they made the first two-way, handheld radio during WWII, allowing for efficient communication between two parties. Then, Motorola broke the previous range of transmission records by sending video and audio from the moon landing in 1969. Lastly, the invention of the cell phone broke the barrier of portable communication for good, which allowed people to communicate from anywhere and finally be free of the copper wire chains that held them in place for the last century.