Lecture 3

Jargon

Software

Allen, Paul
Friend of Bill Gates and co-founder of Microsoft.

Altair 8800
The first commercially successful microcomputer, introduced in 1975 by MITS and sold as a kit through the magazine *Popular Electronics*. The device’s first programming language (Altair BASIC) was developed by Microsoft.

Apple Computer, Inc.
Led by Steve Jobs, Apple computer helped start the personal computer revolution in the 1970’s and is still a prominent player in the industry today.

Apple II
The first (widely distributed) series of personal computers developed by Apple, the popularity of which was galvanized by the release of VisiCalc.

Ballmer, Steve
Friend of Bill Gates and bigwig at Microsoft.

BASIC
Beginners All-purpose Symbolic Instruction Code. A computer language invented by John Kemeny at Dartmouth College in the late 1960s.

Bill Gates
Perennially at the top of Forbes’s richest people list, Gates is the co-founder of and driving force behind Microsoft.

DOS
Disk Operating System. A command-line, interface-driven OS made popular by Microsoft.

Ed Roberts
Founder of Micro Instrumentation and Telemetry Systems (MITS).

IBM PC
Released in 1981, the original IBM PC was an effort to jump into the personal computing market which, at the time, was dominated by Apple.

Jobs, Steve
Co-founder of Apple and computing evangelist. Helped spread the popularity of the personal computer and GUI.

LISA
The first personal computer from Apple to sport a GUI, the original LISA cost $9,995.
| **Macintosh** | The Macintosh (or “Mac”) is the generally used name for a series of computers released by Apple starting in 1984. The original boasted the first commercially successful GUI. |
| **Microsoft Corporation** | The infamous company founded by Bill Gates and Paul Allen, among whose most popular products today are Windows and Office. |
| **MITS** | Micro Instrumentation and Telemetry Systems, the company that developed the ALTAIR 8800. |
| **VisiCalc** | This “killer app” was an early spreadsheet program conceived by Dan Bricklin for the Apple II. |
| **Windows** | A family of operating systems developed by Microsoft. |