

The Monotype Chronicles

Key events in Monotype's history: people, technology, typefaces, company developments, and important industry developments

by Lawrence W. Wallis

1844 - 1894

Tolbert Lanston, Ottmar Mergenthaler, and, Stanley Morison born

1896 - 1906

Monotype issued first typeface; Monotype registered as trademark in US

1907 - 1916

Business structure of Monotype consolidated; First formalised Monotype School established

1917 - 1925

Monotype adopted the Anglo-American point system; F.W. Goudy appointed Art Director

1926 - 1933

Monotype supercaster developed in UK; Perpetua, Gill Sans, Bembo, Times New Roman and Walbaum go on sale

1934 - 1941

Frank Pierpont appointed to the Board of Monotype; Monotype offices in London destroyed by enemy bombing

1942 - 1953

W.I. Burch died; Monotype Bulletin first appeared

1954 - 1959

Monotype Filmsetters installed in US, UK and South Africa

1960 - 1970

Monophoto 600 Filmsetter produced by Monotype

1971 - 1981

Monotype Lasercomp launched; New Series of Monotype Recorders initiated after 10 year lapse

1982 - 1991

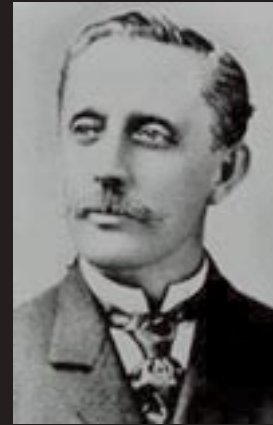
Monotype ceased manufacturing of hot metal keyboards and casters; First PostScript type 1 fonts were issued; Monotype licensed 13 core fonts to Microsoft

1992 - 1996

Agfa, Lexmark, and Hewlett Packard licensed Monotype typefaces for their printers; Monotype CD launched with over 2000 fonts; Font licensing on www.monotype.com began

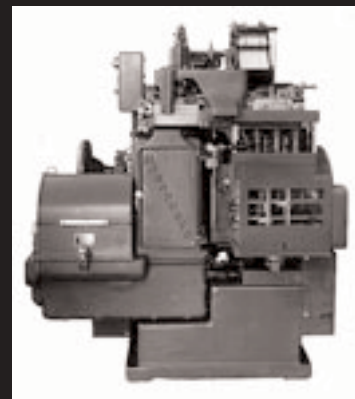
1997

Monotype T-ShirtDesign Maker version 2.0 introduced - bundled with Lexmark inkjet printers. Custom versions of the software licensed to Xerox and REY & Co for European distribution in their t-shirt transfer paper packages.



1844

Tolbert Lanston, the inventor of the Monotype hot-metal composition system, born on 3 February at Troy in Ohio.



1944

The Monotype Corporation Ltd. began research on the project that eventually brought forth the Monophoto Filmsetter. It was to remain an entirely British development.

Agfa acquires Monotype. Agfa and Monotype formally combine their resources and expertise to deliver a world-class font library and state of the art font technologies.

1998

Monotype develops three new custom 'create and print' software products for International Paper's REY & Co division in Europe.

Sybase ships Monotype's WorldType implementation of the first fully hinted font with complete Unicode 2.0 coverage.

1999

Agfa Monotype is created, forming the largest font company in the world dedicated to fonts and font technologies.

Agfa Monotype releases the Albany, Thorndale and Cumberland core set of fonts for new media devices. The New Media Core Fonts are designed for high legibility on low resolution devices such as computer screens and have the same font metrics and widths as the Windows core fonts providing document fidelity between Windows and other operating systems.

Arial Unicode, another WorldType Unicode implementation, ships with Microsoft Office 2000.

Agfa Monotype develops a custom software program for Lexmark that allows users to print Photo Calendars on their Lexmark inkjet printers.

Agfa becomes independent from Bayer and once again takes the name Agfa Corporation. Agfa Typographic Systems becomes Agfa Monotype Corporation, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Agfa Corporation.

2000

Agfa Monotype acquires International Typeface Corporation (ITC).

Corel licenses Albany and Thorndale families for use in their Linux OS and Office Suite to provide Corel customers with metric compatibility with the Windows core fonts.

A new font licensing and embedding model for the e-book publishing industry was introduced.

iType®, a highly compact, extremely portable font scaling technology, was announced. Designed particularly for smart Internet devices, iType gives OEMs the industry's fastest, highest quality solution for developing products that generate text for on-screen display.

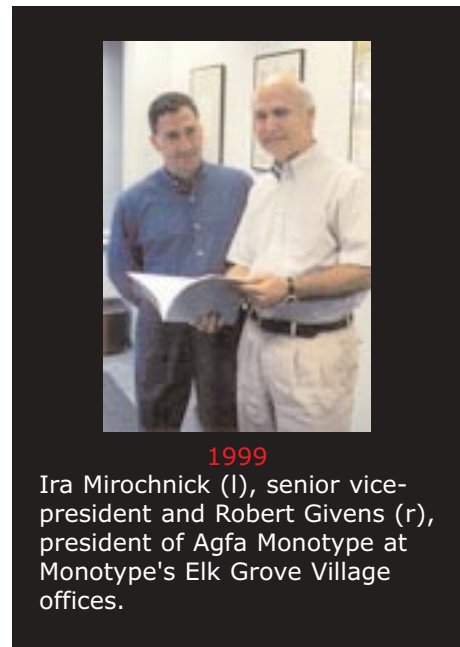
IBM® selects UFST® (Universal Font Scaling Technology®) as the standard font platform for IBM and IBM subsidiary products.

2001

Hewlett-Packard® licenses Agfa Monotype's PostScript® Level 3-compatible font solution, allowing HP to provide its customers with fully compatible PostScript 3 fonts to use with HP LaserJet™ and Deskjet™ printers.

Fonts.com launches and almost immediately becomes the premier site for purchasing fonts on the World Wide Web by offering the most comprehensive selection of downloadable and licensable high-quality fonts available.

iType now includes font support requirements mandated by the Federal Communications Commission for closed captioning display on both analog and digital television systems.



1999

Ira Mirochnick (l), senior vice-president and Robert Givens (r), president of Agfa Monotype at Monotype's Elk Grove Village offices.

2002

Apple® selects 19 TrueType® fonts from Agfa Monotype's Enhanced Screen Quality™ (ESQ™) font library, for use in the Mac OS X®, Apple's revolutionary UNIX™-based operating system.

Agfa Monotype joins the Swiss-based DVB™ (Digital Video Broadcasting Project™). The membership allows Agfa Monotype to provide input and expertise in the development of DVB font standards for digital television.

The two major Chinese-based standards groups – the Committee on Information Technology Standards (CITS) and the State Language Committee (SLC) – approve two Agfa Monotype multi-lingual fonts for distribution within the People's Republic of China (PRC).

2003

Fontwise™, a state of the art font licence management service is launched.

Agfa Monotype acquires Eyewire.com™, a website servicing the high-end designer and font market.

Alliant™ Software, Inc., a new engineering services business providing software and integration services to device manufacturers, is launched.