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JOHN D. "JACK" GOEKEN

A Biography

Telecommunications pioneer John D. "Jack" Goeken is known worldwide in the communications industry and as an innovative entrepreneur.

Goeken was introduced to telecommunications at an early age. He began a radio repair business in the back of a friend's vacuum cleaner shop while still in high school. Later, he furthered his knowledge in electronics as a microwave specialist in the Signal Corps of the U.S. Army.

In 1963, Goeken and four friends founded Microwave Communications, Inc., better known as MCI, and began developing a microwave network. When AT&T, the world's largest corporation, opposed MCI, Goeken started a legal battle that led to open competition in the telecommunications industry. Today, MCI is a pre-eminent global communications company for the digital generation operating in more than 65 countries with 2001 revenues of more than \$35 billion.

Goeken founded several other companies, among them the FTD Mercury Network, known as the "Floral Information Superhighway", a premier electronic network used by all major wire services in the floriculture industry to process wire orders, processing over 25 million floral orders annually.

In the mid 1970's, Goeken literally created the air-to-ground telephone industry by founding Airfone, Inc. The company was sold to GTE in 1986, with Goeken heading the firm until February 1989.

Not content to simply open up a new world of communications to the flying public, Goeken sought to build an air-to-ground network that would eliminate many of the problems (static, fading, etc.) inherent to Airfone's analog technology. To that end, in 1989, Goeken founded In-Flight Phone Corporation. Realizing that the future of communications technology lies with digital transmission, he began building the world's first digital air-to-ground network. Completed in 1991, Goeken's digital network provided the quality and services that people have come to depend on in their offices and homes.

Goeken also founded Railfone Inc., serving the northeast and southwest rail corridors, CML Communications, a company made up of Comsat, MCI and Lockheed Aircraft, to provide a domestic satellite service, Spectrum Analysis and Frequency Planning (SAFP), which at the time was the largest frequency planning and coordinating company outside of AT&T.

Goeken has received numerous awards and commendations for his innovations and contributions to the communications industry. To name a few: In 1987, Southern Illinois University elected him "Entrepreneur of the Year." In 1990, The Radio Club of America presented the David Sarnoff Award to Goeken "for his establishment of air to ground nationwide telephone service." The University of New Hampshire awarded him an honorary degree of Doctor of Business Administration in 1989. In 1992, Goeken was inducted into the Chicago Area Entrepreneurship Hall of Fame. Saint Joseph Medical Center honored Goeken for his accomplishments and contributions to the healthcare field in 1997. The Joliet Chapter of UNICO National honored Goeken as the 1997 Citizen of the Year. Drexel University awarded Goeken an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters in June 1999. The CRN Industry Hall of Fame inducted Mr. Goeken in the fall of 2000, referring to him as the "Builder of the World's Largest Data Network". On September 20, 2004, Mr. Goeken rang the opening bell to begin trading at the Chicago Stock Exchange. The Task Force Veterans Entrepreneurship (TFVE)/Association for Service Disabled Veterans (ASDV) presented Mr. Goeken with the "National Patriot Partner Sempre Award" in April 2005 in Washington, D.C. for his commitment to those persons that have sacrificed their well being for the security and prosperity of our nation. Lewis University presented Mr. Goeken with an honorary degree of Doctorate of Humanities in May 2005.

Business Week magazine referred to Goeken as "the phone world's most prolific inventor" and selected him as "Best Entrepreneur" for 1991. Former Federal Communications Commissioner Alfred C. Sikes referred to Goeken as "one of America's genuine communications pioneers" who has "made a significant contribution."

Goeken has also addressed many prestigious audiences, including MIT, the White House, foreign governments, communications and regulatory agencies as well as numerous professional and educational groups.

Today, Goeken serves as the Chairman and CEO of the Goeken Group Corporation. The Goeken Group Companies include Global MED-NET and Global MED-NET International, companies that send a person's medical history (worldwide) to an Emergency Room within seconds after notification; Personal Guardian, a company that provides an emergency notification and response handheld device designed to quickly assist individuals with emergency situations; and PolyBrite International, a company that designs advanced lighting technology using its patented polymer/light emitting diodes (LED) combination, which produces the same illumination of an incandescent light bulb at 90% energy savings, is vibration and shock resistant, has a 10-year life expectancy, is virtually maintenance free, can be used in new installations or retrofit as neon lighting replacement, and produces no heat.

The Goeken Group Companies continue to develop products and services that are dedicated to the enhancement of personal health, safety and security.