

Charles Peirce bought Radiotechnic Laboratories in 1938, turned it into Peirce Wire Recorder Corporation, and developed the airborne wire recorder to sell to the air force during World War II (and a successor machine with a cartridge/cassette during the Korean War). After the war he converted these into a commercial magnetic recording machine. He introduced a magnetic belt to his machine, made them transistorized and portable, and changed the name of the company to Peirce Dictation Systems in 1955. In 1959 he sold out the company to IBM, which then used his technology as the basis for their own line of dictation machines. Peirce was a consultant for IBM for two years, then retired.