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Subject: Invention of the first Audio Equipment  
Posted by [cuzido](#) on Tue, 12 Oct 2010 13:37:07 GMT

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Does anyone know who invented the very first audio equipment? I mean like speakers and sound boards. Things like this have always intrigued me. I would love to know if anyone knows the answers.

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Subject: Re: Invention of the first Audio Equipment  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Tue, 12 Oct 2010 14:06:05 GMT

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Edison and Bell, drum recorders and telephones...

A brief History of the Recording of Sound, by the Oracle ThinkQuest Education Foundation

An Audio Timeline, by the Audio Engineering Society

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Subject: Re: Invention of the first Audio Equipment  
Posted by [Adveser](#) on Tue, 12 Oct 2010 16:58:30 GMT

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Tesla invented/discovered the mechanism for recording and he claims to have built the first loudspeaker. Edison was known to steal inventions and died a wealthy man because of this while Tesla died penniless despite actual being the first to figure it all out. It is a shame his later works are classified information.

To me, everyone just came up with a variation of Tesla's work until the digital age came about.

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Subject: Re: Invention of the first Audio Equipment  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Tue, 12 Oct 2010 18:07:41 GMT

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I definitely agree with you about crediting Tesla, certainly regarding power distribution, wireless transmission and other things. But in this case, I am not sure Tesla did much with respect to recording or playback of audio.

I wince as I say that, because I know about the Edison/Tesla controversies. I always considered Edison to be a man of little technical substance, more talented at self-promotion than substantive invention. Tesla did the really cool stuff, Edison did the pet rocks and no-brainers.

There are plenty of cases like that in history, where substantive inventions are overlooked or true inventors forgotten while others are given credit. Tesla is the one I'm most familiar with, but there are others.

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That said, I don't think Tesla was really all that interested in audio. Had he been, he would have no doubt been as prolific in the field as he was in the areas of power distribution and wireless transmission.

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Subject: Re: Invention of the first Audio Equipment  
Posted by [Bohnam](#) on Wed, 20 Oct 2010 12:00:35 GMT  
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I would have to put my money on Tesla here. The only things Edison and Bell were really good at were theft and marketing. Audio may not have been his niche, but the man was a flat out genius.

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