RETRIBUTION, INC.

A Silicon Valley Business Plan

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Executive Summary

A group of experienced entrepreneurs have spent over ten years creating a relational database that is a digital [database](#) whose organization is based on the [relational model](#) of data, as proposed by [E. F. Codd](#) in 1970.[1] The various software systems used to maintain this relational database are known as a [relational database management system](#) (RDBMS) model. Virtually all of our relational database system uses [SQL](#) (Structured Query Language) as the language for querying and maintaining the database. Our system model organizes data into one or more [tables](#) (or "relations") of [columns](#) and [rows](#), with a unique key identifying each row. Rows are also called [records](#) or [tuples](#).[2] Generally, each table/relation represents one "entity type" (such as VC name). The rows represent instances of that type of entity (such as "equity" or "debt") and the columns representing values attributed to that instance (such as "valuation" or "campaign donation").

Each row in one of our tables has its own unique key. Rows in a table can be linked to rows in other tables by adding a column for the unique key of the linked row (such columns are known as [foreign keys](#)). Data relationships of arbitrary complexity can be represented by a simple set of concepts.

Part of this processing involves consistently being able to select or modify one and only one row in a table. We have extended this functionality with an AI resource. Therefore, most physical implementations have a unique [primary key](#) (PK) for each table. When a new row is written to the table, a new unique value for the primary key is generated; this is the key that the system uses primarily for accessing the table. System performance is optimized for PKs. Other, more [natural keys](#) may also be identified and defined as [alternate keys](#) (AK). Often several columns are needed to form an AK. Both PKs and AKs have the ability to uniquely identify a row within a table. Our technology may be applied to ensure a unique ID across the venture capitol investigation world, a [globally unique VC identifier](#), when there are broader system requirements.

The primary keys within a database are used to define the relationships among the VC's. When a PK migrates to another table, it becomes a foreign key in the other table. When each cell can contain only one value and the PK migrates into a regular entity table, this design pattern can represent either a one-to-one or one-to-many relationship. Most relational database designs resolve many-to-many relationships by creating an additional table that contains the PKs from both of the other entity tables—the relationship becomes an entity; the resolution table is then named appropriately and the two FKs are combined to form a PK. The migration of PKs to other tables is the second major reason why system-assigned integers are used normally as PKs; there's seldom efficiency nor clarity in migrating a bunch of other types of columns.

We created a database of every venture capitalist that has had a financial connection to a political campaign. We documented their names, affiliations, addresses, off-shore holdings, family trusts, family members, friends, assets, covert stock holdings, escorts and other data which could begin the

bankruptcy and asset termination of any one of them on-demand. This is called a Termination-On-Demand System or **TOD.**

The system was allowed to self-breed and auto-populate, for a number of years, using automated web analysis, email text overlap algorithms, Web-DA and other legally acquired re-percussive data acquisition.

The system is now ready for operation and can be used to legally terminate any corrupt venture capitalist or illicit Silicon Valley technology oligarch by crashing their entire covert asset base and making them, and their investors: bankrupt!

Why Would You Want To Use TOD?

How Silicon Valley and Hollywood Steal From You And Rape Your Inventions and Ideas

By Susan DeLaney – For The Hollywood Reporter OP

Silicon Valley and Hollywood use the same exact lobbyists to rig elections and government policy. They also work hand-in-hand to commercialize idea-theft. Even though they are a small group of men, they account for the largest volume of tax evasion and corruption activities in the USA. Clearly, the facts prove that Hollywood and Silicon Valley are simply a rat pack of unethical crooks.

If you tell anybody in Silicon Valley, or Hollywood, anything that is a bright idea, you will discover, a year later, that they stole it from you and made their own copy cat version.

The following testimonies, from hundreds of thousands of people, are chilling:

"I heard a story from a relative who was involved in genetic research. A friend submitted a paper for peer review. The paper took a LONG time to be peer reviewed. In the mean time, another paper on essentially the same topic got peer reviewed, and it was authored by the person peer reviewing my relative's friend! In other words, their work was held up, so that it could be stolen by someone more well-connected. Have heard these kinds of stories out of Hollywood as well. Someone write's a script. It gets passed around, but turned down. Then a very similar story is authored by someone who 'may or may not' have read the script being passed around, and hey, what do you know, it is snapped up!"

"The Hollywood thing is why you tend to see multiple movies of the same type all coming out at the same time, and it has been going on for decades ("The A-Team" and "The Losers", "A Bug's Life" and "Antz [sic]", "Olympus Has Fallen" and "White House Down", "Dr. Strangeglove" and "Fail-Safe", "The Warriors" and "The Wanderers", "The Amityville Horror" and "The Shining", "Gremlins" and "Ghoulies", "Back to the Future" and "Peggy Sue Got Married", "Go-Bots" and "Transformers", "Turner & Hooch" and "K-9", "The Usual Suspects" and "Primal Fear", "The Truman Show" and "Ed TV", "Dark City" and "The Matrix", "The Road to El Dorado" and "The Emperor's New Groove", "The Prestige" and "The Illusionist", "Observe and Report" and "Paul Blart: Mall Cop", "Gamer" and "Surrogates", "Despicable Me" and "Megamind", "Skyline" and "Battle: Los Angeles" {which apparently was closely-related enough to earn a lawsuit by Sony Pictures}, "This is the End" and "The World's End", "Spectre" and "Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation", "Zootopia" and "Sing", and {last in my list of comparisons} "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice" and "Captain America: Civil War").

Basically, for as long as a bunch of people have been gathered around in Hollywood making movies, a bunch of scripts or general ideas have been copied and produced in similar time frames."

"Very thing happened to Nikola Tesla. I've been reading through his FBI files recently. Apparently they sent out "alien asset seizure" or some foreign collection agency to his hotel room after his death and broke into his safe, found all of his notes and locations for supplies. The ordeal is that Tesla was US citizen at the time. So what jurisdiction did that agency have? The given reason is that they could gather his work faster than any other agency. Which doesn't support their foreign affairs but for some reason that's totally fine. Mind you, Teslas end of life work revolved around stuff of fantasy-transmission of wireless energy. Or stuff that could seriously hurt profits for almost every big name out there. "

"Never google something that you think might be a world changing invention..." ..."Google will simply steal it from your search and have the thieving professional copy cat Larry Page claim to have "invented it".

"All those Israeli tech startups in Silicon Valley are probably based on stolen research. Most of the founders of these startups were members of Unit 8200 - Israel's NSA. There's also lots of insider trading by monitoring conversations of CEOs and bankers around the world. " ..."Lots of insider trading has happened by all these NSA-contracted security firms. Unit 8200 in Israel and many other companies that make surveillance equipment for spy agencies around the world have gotten really rich with "lucky" stock market investments and technology seemingly invented out of nowhere. LOTS of former Unit 8200 members went on to to create startups in Silicon Valley based on technology they most likely stole from other companies. They pretty much had the same powers as the NSA and could break into any system worldwide...."
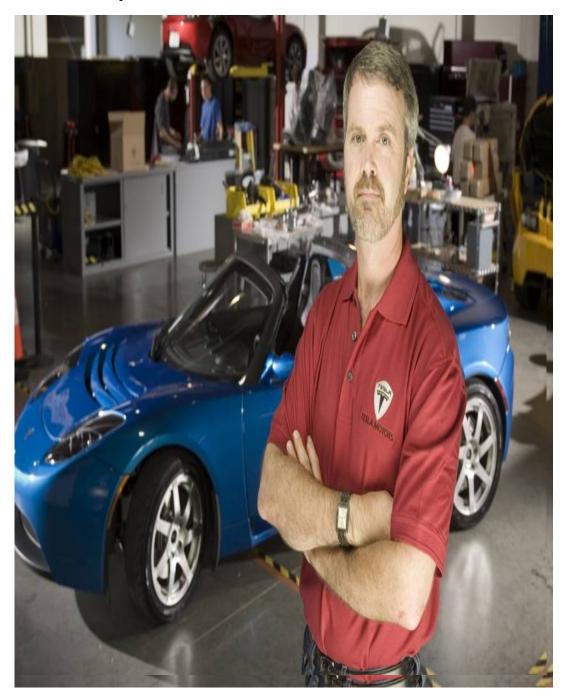
"Even then, a dumbass might just get the idea to finish what great minds of the past have started. Buckminster and Tesla have a lot of groundwork laid out to realistically carry out their goals. If said dumbass were to make significant progress in those goals, would he be stopped? It seems that just having the desire to improve circumstances for all humans is a dangerous enough ideal to those currently in power..."

"It's about stoping new discoveries from overtaking agendas. the human spirit is regulated for the sake of the market, and control. subsequently, and unfortunately, some humans can never be trusted with the things some have already discovered...but most importantly; we have discoveries taking place that can not be easily understood by contemporary, mass-education and curriculums...all of these factors have created a deprecated, socio-economical means of control through the graduated constitution of a flat-learning curve. (oxymoron intended) nothing more, nothing less..."

Bottom Line: Silicon Valley venture capitalists like Tom Perkins, John Doerr, Ray Lane, Vinod Khosla, Al Gore, etc. are pure sacks of thieving shit. They call you in, look at your stuff, copy it and shove their hand as far up your ass as possible. Pay Back is, as they say, a "bitch" and this bitch needs to "bring it" in way that will make a dent in the history books for decades to come.

Silicon Valley VC's have no regrets, embrace crime and will screw anybody for anything. **TOD** breaks that cycle. **TOD** delivers the bypassed regrets and the needed crime interdiction while pulling the screw out and driving it all the way back up the anus of people like Kleiner Perkins.

You Stole My Idea!

When the co-founder of Snapchat is not out cruising Los Angeles in his recently purchased Ferrari, he's stuck in court. Why? Well, he's getting sued by a guy, Reggie Brown, who claims to have been a co-founder in Snapchat.

Snapchat's now being valued at somewhere around $3 billion (despite $0 in revenue), and it looks like Brown may be entitled to a share of the paper loot. "Reggie may deserve something for some of his contributions," Evan Spiegel, Snapchat's co-founder, acknowledged in a deposition video released yesterday.

Stories like these are actually pretty common, and they tend to follow a similar pattern. A group of entrepreneurial hopefuls gets together. One of them pitches an idea. Some of the participants lose interest in the idea, while others pursue it more closely. Roles change and cliques form. Someone is shoved out. Then the startup goes on to massive success, and that person—the one who was shoved out —demands a share in the company spoils. Usually, that person loses. After all, an idea is just an idea, and what matters most is how much a person contributed to building the product or service.

But sometimes, he or she wins. The Winklevii, for instance, settled with Mark Zuckerberg for a reported $65 million, plus a big chunk of stock.

We like to think of Silicon Valley as a happy place. A tract of beautiful NorCal paradise known for innovative ideas and high-tech companies. Computer geniuses and friendly nerds. Principled, Stanford-educated venture capitalists. But there's a darker side to the Valley. A place of jealousy and backstabbing friends. These are their stories. Dun-dun-dun.

Theodore Schroeder vs. Pinterest

Theodore Schroeder, an entrepreneur and lawyer who worked with Pinterest's earliest investor, Brian Cohen, claims that Cohen stole his idea for the social-pinning site Pinterest and handed it off to Ben Silbermann, Pinterest's current CEO and founder.

In a December 2012 lawsuit filed in New York, Schroeder claims that the technology he developed "was shared with Pinterest without his consent even after he took steps to maintain the secrecy of all related technology and business management information."

The lawsuit is still pending.

Schroeder isn't a very public guy. According to AllThingsD, "He is a young practicing lawyer and 'self-taught computer genius' working in the Philadelphia region at a company that he does not want to disclose."

Raj Abhyanker vs. Nextdoor

Despite the fact that most people have never heard of it, Nextdoor has raised a boatload of cash—about $100 million, mostly from Benchmark Capital. For the uninitiated, Nextdoor is sort of like a mashup between Facebook and Google Maps—a site to help you connect with your neighbors.

Raj Abhyanker, a Bay Area lawyer and entrepreneur, claims that Benchmark Capital "had stolen his pitch for a local social network with neighborhood-level privacy controls." Apparently, Abhyanker pitched Benchmark and its entrepreneur-in-residence, who then ran with the idea without him.

That case was quickly dismissed in 2012 (apparently his pitch was too vague—just an idea) but you can read the salacious details of his complaint here.

Now Abhyanker is the CEO of LegalForce, a startup that offers legal services online. In Janurary 2013, he even launched a Kickstarter to fund a documentary about the "idea thieves" of Silicon Valley. Sadly, it raised just $1 (literally).

Peter Daou and James Boyce vs. The Huffington Post

Daou and Boyce were democratic political consultants when, in 2004, they presented Ariana Huffington and Ken Lerer with a plan for a political website, FourteenSixty.com. According to the 2010 complaint, the four had a handshake deal for Daou and Boyce to help build out the site, but, as you may have guessed, Huffington and Lerer ran with the idea without them. Their complaint read: "Huffington has styled herself as a 'new media' maven and an expert on the effective deployment of news and celebrity on the Internet in the service of political ends…. As will be shown at trial, Huffington's and Lerer's image with respect to the Huffington Post is founded on false impressions and inaccuracies: They presented the 'new media' ideas and plans of Peter Daou and James Boyce as their own in order to raise money for the website and enhance their image, and breached their promises to work with Peter and James to develop the site together."

Amazingly, the trial is still ongoing. The judge has refused to throw out the case, saying in February 2013 that the "plaintiffs have adequately alleged that defendants took the information that plaintiffs provided, secretly shared it with another person, camouflaged the origin to make it appear as it came from that other person and, in effect, stole the idea and developed it with that other person."

Both Boyce and Daou continue to work as political consultants in New York City.

Noah Glass and Twitter

Poor, forgotten Noah Glass. If the name sounds familiar, it's because his name has surfaced in recent weeks as Twitter has gone public. Glass was an employee of Odeo, the San Francisco incubator that launched Twitter with Evan Williams, Biz Stone and Jack Dorsey.

Glass ran Twitter's operations from the very early days in September 2006. He was its first user, and he reportedly even came up with its name. Then, after months of tension with his colleagues, he was fired by Evan Williams, Twitter's then-CEO. He never sued Twitter—he seems to be resigned to the idea that it's best to move on.

"I'm sure you get this impression from the story and I've never really said this before—I did feel betrayed," he told Business Insider recently. "I felt betrayed by my friends, by my company, by these people around me I trusted and that I had worked hard to create something with."

The entire interview is well-worth the read.

Not much is publicly known about Glass. His LinkedIn profile appears to be largely untouched in years. His last tweet, sent out Sept. 13—as Twitter was gearing up for its IPO—simply reads: "I wish the Twitter team the best of luck and trust that they will be successful in continuing to develop this important communication tool."

In the Business Insider interview—one of the very few he's every granted—Glass is asked what he's doing now. He alludes to "working on projects that could be something big if they get fleshed out," but leaves it at that.

Martin Eberhard and Tesla's Forgotten Founders

In 2009, Martin Eberhard, the founder and former CEO of Tesla waged a lawsuit against his former business partner, Elon Musk, [claiming that Musk](#) "sought to 'rewrite history' by taking credit for the accomplishments and the very idea behind Tesla Motors, resulting in a damaged reputation for Eberhard."

That, in itself, was pretty juicy, but get this: The lawsuit revealed there were three other founders of Tesla that no one seems to know about. They are: JB Straubel, Marc Tarpenning and Ian Wright. Straubel is actually still with the company—he's the CTO—but Tarpenning and Wright have both left. Marc Tarpenning [now serves](#) as entepreneur in residence at the Mayfield Fund, while Wright founded a [powertrain company](#) (they make cars go fast) in San Jose.

Martin Eberhard went on to work for Volkswagon, and he [now serves](#) on the board of BRD Electric Motorcycles and write web stuff under pseudonyms. He, secretly, really does think Elon Musk belongs in federal prison.

Market Data

[Kickstarter project wants to expose idea thieves of Silicon ...]()

Kickstarter project wants to expose **idea** thieves of **Silicon Valley**. by Jeff Roberts ... to fund a film about venture capitalists who **steal** the **ideas** pitched to ...

[https://gigaom.com/2013/01/17/kickstarter-project-wants-to-e...]()

[How Google Steals Ideas From Entrepreneurs! The Google ...]()

How Google **Steals Ideas** From Entrepreneurs! The Google Innovation Theft Factory The Public / January 25, ... **SILICON VALLEY** SEX SCANDALS; DATING; CARS; Home; News;

[https://gizmodom.net/how-google-steals-ideas-from-entrepreneur...]()

[larry page steals ideas - THE WASHINGTON DC NEWS CENTER]()

Posts about larry page **steals ideas** written by Community Publishers Alliance. Skip to content. A PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY WIKI. ... The **Silicon Valley** No Poaching Lawsuit, ...

[https://departmentofenergyoverwatch.wordpress.com/tag/larry-page-steals-ideas/]()

[Pando: What Is Silicon Valley?]()

To get all metaphorical, what is **Silicon Valley**? ... the more William Shakespeare **steals** lines from Christopher ... **Ideas** are a currency in **Silicon Valley**, ...

[https://pando.com/2012/06/01/what-is-silicon-valley/]()

[How Google Steals Ideas and Technologies From Entrepreneurs ...]()

How Google **Steals Ideas** From Entrepreneurs. ... Page is hardly the first **Silicon Valley** chief with a case of intellectual wanderlust, but unlike most of his peers, ...

[https://gizmodom.net/how-google-steals-ideas-and-technologies-...]()

[Tips For Entrepreneurs Before Making The Move To Silicon ...]()

And though I haven't lived in **Silicon Valley** my whole life, ... Tips For Entrepreneurs Before Making The Move To **Silicon Valley**. ... and don't fear they'll **steal** it ...

[https://www.startupgrind.com/blog/tips-for-entrepreneurs-before-making...]()

[Steals & Deals | Silicon Valley Meetings | Santa Clara ...](#)

Take advantage of some incredible Santa Clara Meeting Space special offers while planning your next event in **Silicon Valley**.

[https://siliconvalleymeetings.com/meeting-space-steals-deals/](#)

[How to Succeed in Silicon Valley: Have a Really Great Bad Idea](#)

The best **ideas** in tech these days are the ones everyone agrees are stupid ... How to Succeed in **Silicon Valley**: Have a Really Great Bad **Idea**.

[newsweek.com/2015/10/30/really-great-bad-ideas-silicon...](#)

[Pirates of the Silicon Valley | entreleadershipblog](#)

The movie, Pirates of **Silicon Valley** revolves around Steve Jobs and Bill Gates, ... Apple copy **ideas** from Xerox, while Microsoft **steal ideas** from Apple.

[https://entreleadershipblog.wordpress.com/2016/11/09/pirates-of-the-silicon-valley-15/](#)

[Ideas of Silicon Valley - Home | Facebook](#)

Ideas of **Silicon Valley**. 237 likes · 1 talking about this. **Ideas**

[https://www.facebook.com/ideasofsiliconvalley/](#)

[BuzzFeed Video Accused of Stealing YouTube Stars' Ideas](#)

Akilah Hughes has accused BuzzFeed of "repeatedly stealing **ideas**, jokes, bits, gags, and therefore money from prominent YouTube creators" via Medium.

[thewrap.com/buzzfeed-video-accused-of-stealing-youtub...](#)

[Why More Start-Ups Are Sharing Ideas Without Legal Protection ...](#)

Why More Start-Ups Are Sharing **Ideas** Without Legal ... and not just in **Silicon Valley**. ... Although it is rare that an investor **steals** an **idea**, ...

[https://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/03/business/smallbusiness/why-mor...](#)

[Hubris runs rampant through Silicon Valley, as Dinesh's new ...](#)

Hubris runs rampant through **Silicon Valley**, ... For all that **Silicon Valley** the show and **Silicon Valley** the ... (And the fact that Denpak **steals** break room creamers ...

[avclub.com/tvclub/hubris-runs-rampant-through-silico...](#)

[25+ best ideas about Pirates Of Silicon Valley on Pinterest ...](#)

Find and save **ideas** about Pirates of **silicon valley** on Pinterest. | See more about Groundhog day movie online, John carter actor and John carter actress.

[https://www.pinterest.com/explore/pirates-of-silicon-valley/](#)

[How Google Steals Ideas From Entrepreneurs! The Google ...](#)

How Google **Steals Ideas** From Entrepreneurs. By Sarah Dunn and Anthony Harvard. A recent article in The New York Times called: "How Larry Page's Obsessions Became ...

[news.server999.org/how-google-steals-ideas-from-entrepreneur...](#)

[Don't Move to Silicon Valley Without Preparation](#)

Don't Move to **Silicon Valley** Without ... Pluralsight, **Steals**.com, ... A small **Silicon Valley** operation with a large off-**Valley** base may be the ideal model for ...

[https://hbr.org/2013/10/dont-move-to-silicon-valley-witho...](#)

[What Do You Do When Someone "Steals" Your Amazing Idea?](#)

People tend to believe **ideas** are rare things but if a useful insight pops into your head, ... What Do You Do When Someone **Steals** Your **Idea**? ... in **Silicon Valley**, ...

[https://www.nirandfar.com/2016/11/think-you-have-a-good-idea-someon...](#)

[What Entrepreneurs Need to Know Before Moving to Silicon ...](#)

What Every Entrepreneur Needs to Know Before Moving to **Silicon Valley**. ... were able to bring fresh **ideas** and perspectives to his company ... that's a **steal**.

[fortune.com/2016/02/08/entrepreneur-silicon-valley-tips/](#)

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SILICON VALLEY CARTEL CORRUPTION VICTIMS JOIN TOGETHER FOR SOME GOOD ... news.yahoo.com/video/does-google-**steal-ideas**-113004631.html Google **Steals Ideas** From ...

[morenewznow.com/tag/google-steals-ideas/](#)

[The Silicon Valley Mafia](#)

The **Silicon Valley** Mafia: From Computer Chips to Gun Clips By Alex Lund, Audrey Finis and Connie Britley with acknowledgement to International Consortium of ...

[tesla-motors-review.weebly.com/uploads/1/4/4/1/14419908/the_silicon_vall...](#)

How this guy makes a living by stealing other people's ideas ...

How this guy makes a living by stealing other people's **ideas** ... someone is going to **steal** it! ... HR document in the history of **Silicon Valley** innovation ...

https://www.ideatovalue.com/inno/nickskillicorn/2017/02/guy-makes-liv...

What Do You Do When Someone "Steals" Your Amazing Idea?

What Do You Do When Someone "**Steals**" Your Amazing **Idea**? ... in **Silicon Valley**, ... Sharing **ideas** means other people can show you your blind spots.

https://themission.co/what-do-you-do-when-someone-steals-your-a...

Why Startups Should Steal Ideas and Hire Weirdos | WIRED

Why Startups Should **Steal Ideas** and Hire Weirdos. Sharing **ideas** online. ... In This **Silicon Valley** Tech Culture and Class War, We're Fighting About the Wrong Things.

https://www.wired.com/2014/02/ideas-flow/

Reaction: Pirates of the Silicon Valley - blogspot.com

Before I begin to my reaction. First of all, I will give a summary about the film "Pirates of the **Silicon Valley**" Pirates of the **Silicon Valley** is a documented film ...

diops16.blogspot.com/2011/11/pirates-of-silicon-valley.html

What was the tech-stealing reference being done about Yelp ...

In the **Silicon Valley** show, when the CEO was explaining the technology (the middle-ware to be specific) to a bunch of curious VCs, the marketing guy takes him out and ...

https://startups.stackexchange.com/questions/9815/what-was-the-tech-stealing...

Market Analysis

If you are reading this and you are a Silicon Valley Venture Capitalist you are most likely a scum sucking pile of shit who does not deserve to exist. The fact that you do exist and you live the vile misogynist, rape-culture, sexist, racist, frat boy, privileged, tone-deaf, self-centered, narcissistic, yuppie life that you lead fully justifies the market potential for **TOD.**

As if that was not enough, hundreds of millions of American voters want TOD to function to the maximum potential of its AI base nodes. In other words, Silicon Valley elitists are some of the most hated assholes on Earth and 90% of America wants them to eat shit!

You can either take this business plan as a tongue-in-cheek take down of Silicon Valley or as something bigger.

In fact…

TOD exists!

Additional Market Validation for TOD

In Silicon Valley…

… There is a small Cartel of "Venture Capitalists" who like to call entrepreneurs in, examine their technologies in fishing expeditions, say "we can't see any use for it", copy the technology and launch it themselves; after black-listing the entrepreneur. That is their "playbook." The New York Times released an article (http://www.nytimes.com/2016/01/24/technology/larry-page-google-founder-is-still-innovator-in-chief.html) describing how Google's bosses covertly skulk around at tech parties in order to snatch technologies from unsuspecting entrepreneurs. The new start-up hopeful in Silicon Valley must watch for these Raiders with a cautious eye. Google, in fact, put their lawyer in charge of the U.S. Patent Office and spent nearly a hundred million dollars lobbying to try to "outlaw" small American inventors because Google is so afraid of eventually having to pay for all of the tech it poached. Here are some past tales of intellectual property poaching in the "word to the wise" category:

Inventors Who Changed the World and Got Screwed in Return
By Karl Smallwood, Mike Floorwalker

As we've discussed before, just because your hard work and perseverance led you to create something that changes the world, it doesn't mean that you'll get fame, fortune, or the slightest bit of recognition out of it. In fact, some inventors get so little credit that we completely forgot about them in our previous article, and since we really don't like angering the ghosts of people who could probably invent a way to punch us from beyond the grave, here they are.

#6. Siegel and Shuster, Superman's Creators

Robert Mora/Getty Images Entertainment/Getty Images

Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster created Superman, the most famous superhero ever, perhaps with the exception of Spider-Man or that kid who changes the channel with his eyes in *X2*.

DC Comics

Superman can set a TV on fire with his eyes, which isn't as useful.

Debuting in 1938, Superman was an instant success. DC Comics soon followed up the "man in underpants punches criminals" concept with Batman, and that was it, there was no turning back: Siegel and Shuster's creation had started a multibillion-dollar industry that is still going strong today, spawning toys, T-shirts, and, oh yeah, some of the highest-grossing movies of all time.

Nice one, Siegel and Shuster!

Alan Light

"Take it from us, kids: Work hard, change the world, and you too can see *absolutely no reward* from it!"

But Then They Got Screwed

"Nice one, Siegel and Shuster" is exactly what DC must have said, in a sarcastic tone, when the duo famously sold them all rights to Superman for a measly $130, a check that's now ironically worth hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The seller added $1,000 for every tear this thing soaked up.

At the time, no one suspected that the guy in blue pajamas that they'd been drawing would turn into a cultural icon -- so when he did, and Siegel and Shuster continued getting squat, the pair embarked on perhaps the longest clusterfuck in copyright history.

The duo spent the better part of their lives unsuccessfully trying to reclaim some part of their creation, only to be rebuffed time and time again. While DC raked in billions from Superman alone, Siegel and Shuster lived the lives of paupers. They were given a yearly pension in the late 1970s by Warner Bros. (which had purchased DC), but only because the studio couldn't afford the bad publicity with a Superman movie on the way.

"You're right, scrapping the costume is not going to help. Just pay them."

In 1999, three years after Siegel died, his family successfully won the rights to his half of his creation. A happy ending, right? Nope! This meant dick to Warner Bros., who still refused to pay them a penny, leaving them to fight in court for another 10 fucking years. And the superdickery continues: More recently, documents disappeared from Siegel's daughter's attorney's office and somehow wound up in the hands of Warner Bros. Executives.

#5. Philo T. Farnsworth, the Farm Boy Who Invented Television

Getty

Philo Farnsworth, besides having the supreme honor of inspiring a *Futurama* character, was a serial inventor with a list of credited patents longer than his forehead.

And he had a HUGE forehead.

Among those patents was the one that made television possible: an "image dissector" that could capture images as a series of lines to be displayed electronically. If that isn't impressive enough for you, consider the fact that Farnsworth came up with the idea at age 14, while growing up on a farm in Idaho, and first demonstrated it at 21, in 1927. If that didn't make you feel bad about yourself, it should have.

But Then He Got Screwed

When the young inventor applied for a patent at age 20, David Sarnoff of the Radio Corporation of America took notice. Radio had a pretty cozy spot at the center of the American living room at this point, and Sarnoff wasn't interested in letting that change. And if it did, then he would at least make sure that RCA would be the one getting rich from it.

David Sarnoff: *Smug* magazine's Person of the Year, 1921-1967.

Sarnoff kept Farnsworth tied in a series of legal battles over the next decade using a number of bullshit tactics, like hiring a Russian inventor to spy on him or using said inventor's earlier patents (which they could never get to work) to argue that *he* had invented TV. At one point Sarnoff just said "Fuck it" and started making TVs without paying Farnsworth. RCA was eventually forced to pay him a one-time $1 million licensing fee, but it wasn't worth the emotional stress that had left the man crippled.

And yet he looks so healthy.

Then the whole television business was put on hold when the '40s rolled around and the government told everyone to focus on building things that could kill Germans. The final blow came when Farnsworth's patents expired just as World War II ended ... and, what do you know, television sales skyrocketed. RCA, or anyone else for that matter, no longer had to even pretend to give a shit about paying Farnsworth for his invention.

It wasn't until 20 years after his death that the government decided that Farnsworth probably deserved some recognition. No shit.

DC Pages
Following Farnsworth's final wishes, his statue is about to insert something into Sarnoff's anus.

#4. Edwin H. Armstrong, the Father of FM Radio

American Stock Archive / Getty

When is the last time you listened to AM radio? Intentionally? The sound quality is so bad that most of the programming is reduced to things that already sound like shit, like conservative talk radio or a single, never-ending religious sermon in Spanish.

Getty
"Either way, I want to do the opposite of pray. Which is ... what, rape-arson?"

The much superior FM was invented by Edwin Armstrong, who created a system to reduce interference across radio bands in the 1910s. He continued his lifelong vendetta against crappy sound in the '20s, when he came up with frequency modulation (FM) as a way to reduce static. We will now reiterate that he developed all this technology nearly 100 years ago, and it's still present in all modern radios.
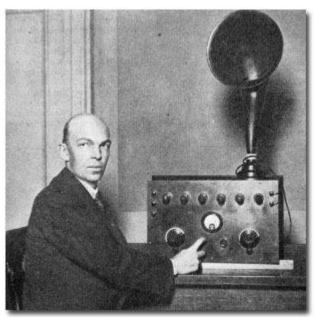
But Then He Got Screwed

Things seemed to be going swimmingly for Armstrong for a while, but it was at this point that a remarkably smug asshole came into the picture.

"Miss me?"

Yes, David fucking Sarnoff from RC-fucking-A proceeded to mess with the life of yet another world-changing inventor. Sarnoff had built his empire with AM radio, so he decided that if FM was the way of the future, then he'd do anything possible to pull a John Connor on that future. Since Armstrong wouldn't relinquish his patent, Sarnoff made sure that RCA not only stopped supporting the development of the new technology, but actively tried to stop it.

In 1937, Armstrong used money from his own pocket to build the very first FM radio station. Another followed, then another, until by the mid '40s a string of stations known as the Yankee Network were busy convincing everyone of the superiority of FM, just by existing. And then it all stopped.

Radio Magazine

Armstrong was now forced to rely on his mutant telepathy.

In a dick move of epic proportions, Sarnoff successfully lobbied the FCC to move the FM band to a different place on the dial, from 42 to 50 MHz to 88 to 108 MHz. While there were somewhat valid technical reasons for this, a happy side effect for RCA was that it made all of Armstrong's stations instantly obsolete.

It took decades for FM radio to recover. In the late '70s, it finally surpassed AM, but Armstrong was long gone by then, having committed suicide in 1954 by jumping from the 13th floor of his office building, presumably screaming "FUCK SARNOOOOOOFFFF" all the way down.

Pay respect to his memory by printing out this picture and drawing a dick on it today.

#3. John Walker, Inventor of the Match

About [500 billion matches are used every year](#) in the United States -- that's the kind of volume you can do when your product sets itself on fire with every use. Before the invention of self-igniting friction matches, people simply used sticks that caught on fire when you, y'know, put them near fire.

It was a bad system.

This changed when John Walker, an English chemist born in 1871, began coating sticks in a number of dangerous-sounding chemicals until he happened upon one that, when struck against a surface, erupted in flames. Other self-igniting matches had been tried before, but they were extremely impractical, by which we mean that a lot of people probably lost their eyebrows or worse using them.

And clearly, eyebrows were very important to this man.

Walker's invention caught on fire, both literally and figuratively, and we still keep matches around today, despite the fact that we've all heard of lighters.

But Then He Got Screwed

Walker, unaware of the potential of his invention, worked on these new "friction lights" for about a year, then promptly forgot about the whole thing and stopped selling them. People close to him implored Walker to patent his friction light, since he'd just revolutionized the creation of fire and all. Walker declined, believing that his invention could better benefit mankind without a patent.

Others, however, believed that Walker's invention could better benefit mankind by making them rich.

"How does fire help humanity if it doesn't allow me to buy prostitutes?"

In 1829, another inventor named Isaac Holden independently came up with an improved version of Walker's friction matches. Like Walker, Holden neglected to patent his idea ... and that's where one Samuel Jones came in. Jones, realizing that Walker and Holden had effectively created one of the most useful inventions in the history of civilization and weren't making money from it, decided to do it on their behalf, because he was nice like that.

Almost immediately, Jones patented the exact same thing and began selling it under the name "Lucifers," because fuck it -- if you're gonna be evil, you might as well go to the source. Soon other brands began offering improved versions of the same thing, all for a price, of course. It wasn't until they were all dead that Walker was credited for his invention, and Jones for being a douchebag.

"To Samuel Jones, the man who made the modern bar possible!"

#2. Stephen Foster, the Father of American Music

There are some tunes that you're just born knowing. If we somehow forced you to hum a melody right now, chances are that a great number of you would go with something like "Oh! Susanna":

Or "Camptown Races" (you know, the one that goes "doo-da, doo-da"):

Or maybe something more nostalgic, like "Old Folks at Home":

Man, can you imagine if all these songs had been written by the same guy, and that he'd been actively trying to get money from them? That dude would have been richer than Madonna and Bono combined.

Actually, all those songs and more *were* written by the same person, and he *did* try to cash in on them -- the keyword being "try."

Then "she" came around the mountain and snatched up all his royalties.

But Then He Got Screwed

In the 1800s, Stephen Foster wrote classics like "My Old Kentucky Home" and "Beautiful Dreamer" and [over 200 other songs](). Foster was a professional songwriter before those existed. Seriously: The profession literally [did not exist]() before Foster trailblazed it like a motherfucker.

Not many pop stars can pull off a bow tie.

Of course, the problem with being the first in his profession was that there were no such things as "enforcing copyright" or "not screwing over songwriters" back then. Today, Foster would have earned obscene amounts of money from "Oh! Susanna" alone, but in 1848, he got exactly $100 for the rights to publish the sheet music, while the publisher made $10,000 selling his work.

Even when Foster became a minor celebrity, he continued getting nothing but pennies for every copy of his work that was sold. For his dozens of hit songs, he saw around $15,000 in royalties in his whole life. In the 1860s, he was dumped by his wife, who had probably had enough of sticking around with this dude who *wrote* like a rock star, and *drank* like a rock star, but was not *rich* like one. He died at the age of 37 after hitting his head on a washbasin, with around 40 cents in his pocket.

Some of which were melted down to make this statue.

His contributions can't be overstated. Not only did he create most of the conventions of popular songwriting as we know them today, but he also demonstrated the need for intellectual property laws by getting repeatedly screwed.
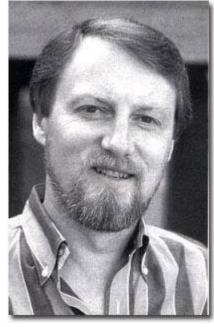
#1. Gary Kildall, the Father of the Operating System


```
CD-ROM Device Driver for IDE (Four Channels Supported)
(C)Copyright Oak Technology Inc. 1993-1996
Driver Version      : V340
Device Name         : BANANA
Transfer Mode       : Programmed I/O
Drive 0:  Port= 1F0 (Primary Channel), Slave   IRQ= 14
Firmware version    : ALPH

MSCDEX Version 2.25
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corp. 1986-1995. All rights reserved.
      Drive R: = Driver BANANA unit 0
A:\>
```

Gary Kildall is one of the guys we have to thank for the fact that you don't need to be a genius to use the ultra advanced computer you are looking at right now to search for porn. Thank you, Gary.

NNDB

Thank you for the porn.

In 1973, Kildall made life a lot easier for nerds everywhere when he created CP/M, a groundbreaking operating system for microcomputers (which is what they called any computer smaller than a semi truck back then). The program became the industry standard for the next decade. This guy was basically Bill Gates before Bill Gates was Bill Gates.

"It's cool, I'll just donate a bunch of money to charity someday when I'm all old and prune-faced."

But Then He Got Screwed

Of course, at the same time, Bill Gates was busy trying to become Bill Gates, and he eventually achieved that at Kildall's expense.
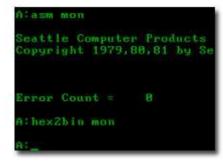
In 1980, IBM was getting ready to launch its first personal computer and needed an operating system to operate the shit out of it. They first knocked on Microsoft's door, but Microsoft wasn't really into the OS-making business at that point, so they directed the IBM suits to Gary Kildall's company. However, as nerd lore has it, Gary picked that day to go flying (he was an amateur pilot), blowing off IBM and his chance at history.

DigiBarn Computer Museum

Let he who hasn't blown off a corporate giant to go flying cast the first stone.

Accounts differ on whether Kildall met the IBM suits that day or not, but either way, the company went back to Microsoft, totally forgetting the whole "We don't make OS's here" part. Not one to miss out on an opportunity, Bill Gates turned to local programmer Tim Paterson, who had built a CP/M clone he called QDOS (for "Quick and Dirty Operating System"), bought it for a paltry 50 grand, then turned around and sold it to IBM under the name PC-DOS.

The term "user-friendly" meant something very different back then.

PC-DOS, later renamed MS-DOS, was included in every computer IBM made, and, long story short, that's why roughly 90 percent of you are using Microsoft Windows right now.

Today, Kildall's name is barely known, while Bill Gates will be a household name in the fucking 25th century. Most of Kildall's innovations ended up being credited to other people -- and he can't even defend himself, having died in 1994 after falling down in a tavern, which pretty much just seems like his luck.

Getty

Today's lesson is, if you're an inventor, wear a freaking helmet.

Karl Smallwood wrote a book (yes, a real one), which you can read all about here. If you want to read words he's written for free, feel free to follow him on Twitter. Mike Floorwalker has a website that's like ... whoa. Like, seriously, dude ... whoa.

The sure sign of a great idea is when some big gorilla steals it from you.

Robert William Kearns (March 10, 1927 – February 9, 2005) was an American inventor
who invented the intermittent windshield wiper systems used on most automobiles from 1969 to the present. His first patent for the invention was filed on December 1, 1964.

Kearns won one of the best known patent infringement cases against Ford Motor Company (1978–1990) and a case against Chrysler Corporation (1982–1992). Having invented and patented the intermittent windshield wiper mechanism, which was useful in light rain or mist, he tried to interest the "Big Three" auto makers in licensing the technology.

But then he got screwed.
They all rejected his proposal, yet copied his idea and began to install intermittent wipers in their cars, beginning in 1969. march Abraham made the film: " Flash of Genius" about him.

Preston Tucker was a car-crazy kid who hung around auto speedways and grew up to create
an automobile–the Tucker–that was years ahead of its time. He was a man of pioneering spirit, ingenuity and daring, who revolutionized Detroit in the 1940s with his stunning "Car of Tomorrow." It was streamlined, futuristic and fast–the car every American dreamed of owning, at a price most people could afford.

A man of endless enthusiasm, Tucker publicized his model all over the country to wild acclaim. He sold stock, set up a factory . . .

But then he got screwed.

…and then the auto industry launched a devastating anti-Tucker campaign in order to character assassinate, industrially spy on and sabotage his car. Francis Ford Coppola made a movie: "The Man and His Dream" about him.

Nikola Tesla helped established robotics, radar, remote control, and he helped expand ballistics, nuclear physics, and theoretical physics.

But then he got screwed.

Practically no one's heard of him. Why? Because of a man named Thomas Edison, who is widely credited with the invention of the light bulb. Edison was an all-around pretentious ass, who totally tried to steal Tesla's credit… which kinda worked, considering everyone remembers him and not Tesla. Anyway, the two men had initially worked together — well, Tesla worked for Edison –and this is where Tesla was first screwed over by the man. Edison had offered $50,000 — over a million bucks, adjusted for inflation — to someone who could fix his crappy and inefficient motors. When Tesla did (probably by staring them down until they worked harder), Edison wrote his deal off as a joke, and continued to pay Tesla $18 per week. Keep in mind, Tesla was one of the most brilliant humans to have ever lived; it didn't take long for him to flip Edison the bird and get his ass outta there to start his own company.

Soon enough, Edison's electricity, direct current (DC) was competing with Tesla's far superior electricity, alternating current (AC). Edison actually tried to discredit Tesla's AC by having the first electric chair run on it; this was supposed to discourage people from putting it in their home. There are a few movies based on Nikola, one is: "The Prestige".

THUS…

What do we learn from this lesson?:

– Non-disclosure agreements with investors mean nothing. Only discuss the "How It Can Make Money" part with investors and never discuss the "How it Works" part with anybody!

– Build it and try selling it yourself, first.

– File a patent on it before you tell a single sole about it. If you have told anyone except your patent lawyer, then the cat is out of the tube!

- If a big corrupt gorilla company steals your stuff and won't negotiate, crash their company and file charges against them with every law enforcement agency in the world!

REGULATION

Small businesses claim US government stealing their ideas

By Eric Shawn

http://video.foxnews.com/static/p/video/app/embed/iframe/vod.html?
video_id=2940493348001&_fx=y&_cparam=notitle

"They stole all my stuff and used taxpayer money to do it," John Hnatio, a Maryland small business owner, says of the U.S. government.

Hnatio claims the government has put his company, FoodquestTQ, nearly out of business by stealing his firm's software that was designed to be licensed to the Food and Drug Administration to monitor food safety.

The FDA "took our ideas, plagiarized my doctoral dissertation on which a patent was based, and then they infringed on our patent. The result was that it decimated our business," he adds.

Hnatio says his company has been left hanging by a thread. He has had to fire employees and says that the remaining three, including himself, are receiving no salary and have been forced to go on unemployment insurance.

"I have never seen anything like it," says Hnatio, who is a retired federal government official.

He says the FDA "duplicated exactly what we were selling to industry and they were giving it away for free...instead of helping small business commercialize their product, what we are seeing is a dragon, in the name of the U.S. government that is eating their own young."

FoodquestTQ is only one of numerous small businesses that accuse the government of stealing their intellectual property or trade secrets when they enter into contracts or research agreements with federal agencies.

"The government interceded, stole the technology and attempted to use this in classified programs," says Jim O'Keefe, the president of the small New Jersey technology company Demodulation. He has filed a $50 million lawsuit against the U.S. government, accusing it of taking his firm's research.

Demodulation developed an advanced technology involving fiber coated wire, called microwire, which is thinner than a human hair. The company says its microwire can be used for a variety of national security applications, such as tracking drones, keeping tabs on soldiers on battlefields, transmitting information without a power source, and that it even has the ability "to render objects invisible to radar."

"It sounds incredible and impossible that the U.S. government is taking things from people," says Demodulation lawyer Sean Callagy. "We believe this is the greatest country in the world with the greatest justice system in the world but the U.S. government is not an eagle or a flag, but human beings. And human beings make mistakes."

The lawsuit accuses the Department of Energy and the National Nuclear Security Administration, among others, of illegally swiping the firm's information by "using microwire and Demodulation's trade secrets in its mission to gather intelligence."

It also says that the U.S. has even built "a secure facility for the production of microwire" on its own.

"There are classified reports showing the technology," declares Demodulation attorney Ben Light, who says that after the company "shared the secret sauce" about microwire with federal officials, they simply "took (the) wire."

The Department of Energy referred Fox News' requests for comment to the National Nuclear Security Administration, which did not respond to repeated requests for a comment about the company's allegations.

The Department of Justice denies Demodulation's charges in court filings.

Stuart Delery, an Acting Assistant Attorney General, wrote that while "the United States admits that it continues to conduct research regarding what is generally known as 'microwire,'" he says that the government did not act improperly.

The Department of Justice claims the government did not take any proprietary information or develop the microwire technology based on Demodulation's work, and that "none of the asserted patents have been infringed on by the United States."

Delery also pointed out that some of Demodulation's patents had expired.

"The only reason the patents expired is because Demodulation was driven out of business," responds the firm's lawyer, Light. "It doesn't affect the entire case because any infringement during the period when the patents were enforced is still compensable."

O'Keefe says the government denials are "an impossibility based on the evidence I have."

He is calling for "reform and legislation to protect us. I hope through our litigation we will be able to expose some of the problems."

It turns out that the government is routinely accused of similar wrongdoing and sometimes has to pony up.

The U.S. Army settled a case in November by paying $50 million to a Texas company, Apptricity, which claimed the government took some of its software, which tracks military equipment from MRE's to troops, without paying for it.

The company's court papers said that the government "willfully infringed" on its copyrights, "failed to provide information" about what it did and was engaged in "actively concealing the Army's misappropriation of Apptricity software."

The complaint said the Army paid for using the software on five servers and 150 devices, but actually "copied and installed Apptricity software on at least 98 servers and at least 9,063 devices" without telling the company.

"I don't think there was malicious intent," Apptricity's founder and president Tim Garcia tells Fox News in the aftermath of the settlement. He says his company pursued its case by the "standard process through the Court of Claims."

There are numerous other companies that have filed similar actions at the Washington, D.C.-based court, which is the venue for legal claims against the federal government. Among them:

Liberty Ammunition, which is suing the government for allegedly infringing on its copyright for developing a lead-free "green bullet" after it worked on the invention with the Department of Defense.

Net Results, which claims that the Army infringed on its patent for a "mine detecting device" by giving out its design to six other government contractors.

In 2009, NASA was ordered to pay $28.3 million to Boeing after the court found that the government infringed on the company's aluminum alloy patent.

In a noted case in 1999, the U.S. government paid then Hughes Electronics $154 million in damages after a 30- year long legal battle found that the government illegally appropriated the company's satellite technology.

The U.S. Court of Federal Claims calls itself "the people's court," and says it is considered "the keeper of the nation's conscience." It is situated right across Lafayette Park from the White House.

"There is no reason to think it can't happen," observes New York University law Professor Jeanne Fromer, an intellectual property and copyright law specialist.

"The government can take patent rights, as long as they compensate for it. It is not dissimilar, in that sense, to notions of eminent domain."

"The government is a big sprawling place and there are lots of people acting in it. I think some of them act very nobly...but it's hard to say that everyone always does."

"We are hearing more frequently from companies about intellectual property theft by the government," notes John Palatiello, head of the Washington, D.C.- area lobbying group, the Business Coalition for Fair Competition, which is studying the issue.

"Companies are becoming more vocal about it."

Hnatio believes there is a troubling explanation for alleged government flinching.

"What we are seeing is a direct competition between the private sector and the U.S. government. The problem for small businesses is that they are simply being destroyed by their own government in spite of the fact that we hear politicians say all the time, that small business is important...it's extremely disturbing because it means we lose jobs, and it means we lose our competitive edge in the world. It creates a very dangerous situation for our national security."

Fox News repeatedly requested comment from the FDA regarding Hnatio's allegations about FoodquestTQ, but the agency did not issue a statement.

While the Demodulation case is expected to go to trial next year, Hnatio says he has been left without any money to hire a lawyer to go to court.

"From the time I was a little kid I dreamed of starting a business. But I do have to tell you that there is a grave danger to the American dream," he says.

Follow Eric Shawn on Twitter: @EricShawnonFox Becky Diamond contributed to this report.

http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2013/12/17/small-businesses-claim-us-government-stealing-their