EUROPEAN ACADEMIC HERITAGE DAY

A short story about recent waves of Crisis, Trauma and Hope

Humankind's evolution is governed by their adaptation to their surroundings: the communication has always been a necessity of the intelligent living being. With this basic rule of survival in mind, we have tried to identify periods of crisis and respite, disjointed or not, in the history of Radio, by selecting three examples that are part of the estate of the Faraday Museum in the Instituto Superior Técnico at the University of Lisbon

The vacuum tube 3NF and Radio OE333

After **World War I (1914-18)** and the **Spanish Flu (1918),** a strategy of economic recovery was imposed. In this context, Siemens & Halske and Telefunken were effective enterprise leaders. They were also crucial to recover **hope**. In Germany, the first radio broadcasts came into being (1919) and the first radio station for paid services was established (1922). In 1923, Siegmund Lowe founded LOWE. Meanwhile, new indicators hinted at **tough times**. In 1926, with the imposition of cost reduction, Lowe developed a triple vacuum tube (**3NF**), often considered the first manufactured integrated circuit. Widely publicized by Radio News (USA), the invention was a guarantee of success, healing many of the psychological effects associated with the **1929 recession**. This device is included in the **OE333**, a radio accessible to vast layers of society.

In 1927, low-cost radios (People Radio; *Volksempfänger*) were developed. When Hitler took over, the **VE301** was announced
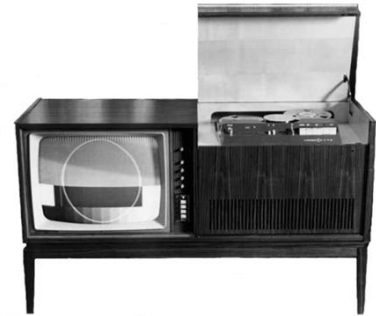

Radio VE301 W

Radio DKE38

In the **dark period 1939-45** several versions of People Radio constituted a Nazi propaganda tool. The government put an end to the competition from small manufacturers (around 28), leading practically to its exclusive commercialization.

Like a magic wave, a new **age of hope** appeared in the forties. In 1949, Lowe was reappointed as the director of the company. In 1961, the company launched the first German device for video recording and editing (**OPTACORD 500).**