

Transportation

1925-1928



1925

Aluminum

Who: Hans Christian Ørsted
(Inventor)

Where: Denmark

What: Aluminum is a light-weight, non corrosive material that is vital to the transport industry, particularly aviation.



Image Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy

Aluminum is the chemical element in the periodic table that has the symbol **Al**. Hans Christian Ørsted of Denmark was the first to produce the metal in 1925. Aluminum is found primarily as the ore bauxite and is notable for its resistance to corrosion and its light weight. Structural components made from aluminium and its alloys are vital to the aviation industry and very important in other areas of transportation and building in which light weight, durability, and strength are needed.

1926

Liquid-Fueled Rocket

Who: Robert Goddard

Where: USA--
Massachusetts

What: Demonstrates
that liquid-fueled
rockets were possible

Robert Hutchings Goddard, a professor and scientist, launched the world's first liquid-fueled rocket in 1926. The rocket, which was dubbed "Nell", rose just 41 feet during a 2.5-second flight, but it demonstrated that liquid-fuel propellants were possible. In the decade that followed, he launched rockets that attained speeds of up to 550 miles an hour. Goddard was often ridiculed for his theories and received little recognition during his own lifetime.



Image Source: Wikipedia.com

Eventually, he would be called a father of modern rocketry. Goddard became interested in space after he read H.G. Well's science fiction classic *The War of the Worlds* when he was 16 years old. He dreamed of a vehicle that might travel to Mars.

1927

Transcontinental Bus Service



Image Source: www.strayhound.com

Who: Carl Wickman (Entrepreneur)

Where: USA

Why: First transcontinental bus service

Carl Wickman started a bus company transporting iron ore miners in Minnesota in 1915. Over time he joined forces with other bus line owners—expanding service across the country. By 1927, his operation which had become known as Greyhound Lines was making transcontinental trips from California to New York. Provision of this new service was motivated by profit.

1927-1928

Solo Transatlantic Flights

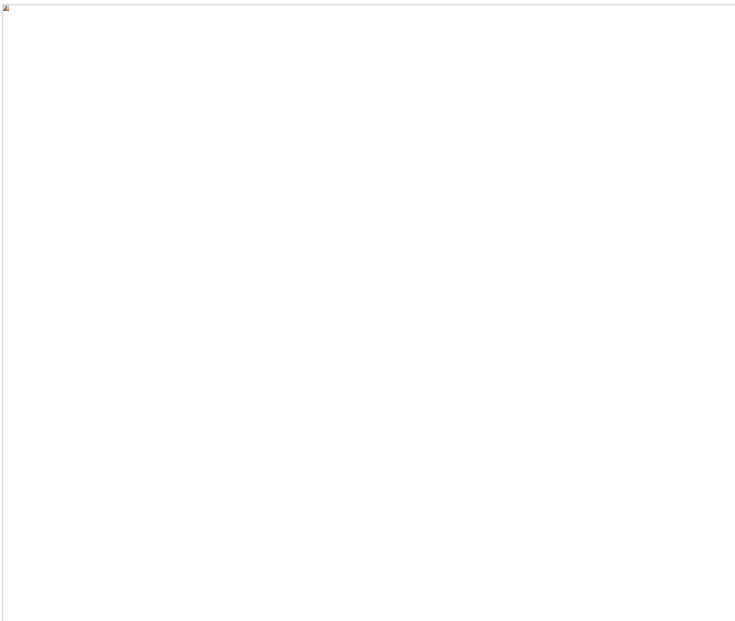


Image Source: University of Virginia



Image Source: Amelia Earhart Museum

Raymond Orteig, a New York businessman, offered a prize of \$25,000 in 1919 for the first nonstop transatlantic flight between New York and Paris. By the mid 1920's, airplanes had finally developed enough to make such a flight possible but the first aviators to go for the prize paid with their lives. Charles Lindbergh and his plane, the *Spirit of St. Louis*, eventually succeeded. The 1927 trip from New York to Paris took 33.5 hours. Amelia Earhart followed with the first solo transatlantic flight by a woman in 1932. Her trip from Harbour Grace, Newfoundland to Londonderry, Ireland took 15 hours, 18 minutes. Trips such as these fueled public interest in flight as a means of transport