

# HISTORICAL FACT SHEET Telephone Industry Related Companies



COMPANY Best Telephone Manufacturing Company

DATE ORGANIZED 1894

WHERE ORGANIZED Baltimore, MD

FOUNDER(S) William J. Atkinson, Frank B. Hubbell,  
James Russell

NATURE OF BUSINESS Manufacturer

Subsequent names or significant changes resulting from acquisitions, consolidation, sales or bankruptcies:

Directors indicted for stock fraud

DATE

1897

Company declared insolvent and assets sold at auction

1897

REMARKS Mr. Atkinson also formed the Home Telephone companies of Baltimore; Trenton NJ; Washington, DC; Wilmington, DE; Jersey City, NJ; Cleveland, OH; Pittsburg, PA; & St. Louis  
The Best company was formed to supply telephone equipment to these companies. Stock was sold based on severely under reporting the value of the assets and number of subscribers.

It appears, as in the photo above, the Best used a Manhattan top box as many mfgs did.

Source: Electrical Engineering, 1898; Telephony, 1918

