



So what do you do after inventing one of the more popular technologies of the past decade - the MP3 player?

Well, if you're **Nathan Schulhof** and you already have more than 35 years as a successful serial entrepreneur to your credit, chances are you do what most in your position do - consult, invest, and look for the next big thing.

As shown by the four U.S. Patents bearing his name 5,557,541 5,572,442 5,841,979 and 5,914,941), Nathan M. Schulhof (52) was the visionary behind the devices known today by most people as MP3 players.

Nathan Schulhof, the inventor of the MP3 player, holding the Listen Up player, the first portable, digital audio device.

As envisioned by Schulhof in the early 1990s when he founded Information Highway Media Corp. (later renamed Audio Highway and then audiohighway.com), such portable devices would allow the selection, retrieval, storage and playback of audio content delivered to the device via the Internet or another broadband delivery system. These handheld systems would also include a high-capacity storage medium, basic control unit, mobile control unit, a faster-than-real-time recording mechanism, and a playback system designed to detect playback resolution.

Schulhof completed the first prototype of his invention in 1994 that was commercialized by Schulhof's team in 1996 as the Listen Up Player. The Listen Up device won an Innovations award from the Consumer Electronics Show in January 1997 and was later selected to receive the People's Choice award from the Upside Magazine/David Coursey Internet Showcase conference in 1998.

Although Audio Highway/audiohighway.com eventually decided to focus its efforts on the acquisition and delivery of audio and video content via the Internet...

Nathan Schulhof

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