

**American Society of Radiologic Technologist
and
American Registry of Radiologist Technologist
A Little Bit of History**

It was not until the 1920's, that the efforts of one man Eddy C. Jerman, that education, organization and legitimacy was brought to the field of Radiology. Jerman traveled throughout the Midwest as a representative for Victor x-ray Equipment. Through his travels Jerman discovered the need for techniq. He persuaded the Victor Corporation to establish a form of education program. He along with 13 acquaintances established the first national technicians society, the American Association of Radiologic Technicians. The society was created for the purpose of affording technicians an opportunity for interchanging of ideas concerned with radiologic technique.

With the emerging applications of the radiologic field, technicians decided to establish their own credibility, as they assumed more and more responsibilities. Radiologist feared such an organization. To ease Radiologist concerns Jerman strongly proposed a professional code of ethics for the radiologic technicians, advocating "the high ideals of loyalty to the profession and to the radiologist.

Despite this, by 1920 leaders of the Radiologic Society of North America were developing a way to establish some form of control "over the x-ray technician".

The purpose of the registry was to introduce a higher degree of technical expertise and ethical standards.

Testing guidelines for registering technicians was adopted in 1923 to distinguish "sincere" technicians, from their less scrupulous fellows". 89 people passed the first registry for registered technicians and by 1925 those numbers had increased to 290. Of the 432 registered technicians in 1927, 352 were women.

In 1930 the technicians society changed its name to the American Society of Radiographers to have a clearer distinguish between the Registry and the American Society of X-Ray technicians.

Much advancement was made in the profession during the 30's and 40's. In 1940 there were 90 accredited schools for x-ray technicians in the United States. In 1946 that number increased to 130, an increase of 45% in just six years. By 1943 the Registry rolls listed 4600 technicians. Radiology continued to advance in the 50's culminating in 1964, when the technicians again changed their name to the American Society of Radiologic

Technologists (ASRT). This would distinguish between technicians, a term that the society believed was definitive of a worker with minimal on the job training, and technologist as a highly skilled and educated professional. As technology increased so did the radiology profession. Different modalities began to emerge, ultrasound, nuclear medicine, cat scan, and MRI. Today radiology continues to change at a rapid rate. Today's registered technologist must work hard to keep abreast of the latest changes.