



# Stanford eCorner

## How the Founders Met

Andy Rubin, *Danger*; Joe Britt, *Danger*; Matt Hershenson, *Danger*

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Video URL: <http://ecorner.stanford.edu/videos/1133/How-the-Founders-Met>

All three founders of Danger, Andy Rubio, Joe Britt, and Matt Hershenson, came to the Valley in the late 80's or early 90's where they worked for a series of companies and invariably met and formed relationships with each other. Out of this network, the three men became friends and started Danger in January of 2000.



### Transcript

So, my name is Joe Britt. I moved to the Valley in the early '90s to work for Apple Computer. From Apple I went to a company called 3DO. So, I came to the Valley and worked for Apple in the early '90s. Then I went to a company called 3DO which was building a gaming system, a home game console. From there, I went to a startup called Catapult Entertainment started by a bunch of ex-Apple guys. That's where I met Matt Hershenson who developed a network video game system for the Sega Genesis and Super Nintendo. After that, I joined WebTV as one of the very first employees and developed the operating system and system software that's in the WebTV box. From there, Andy, Matt, and I started the Danger. My name is Matt Hershenson.

I want to say officially the thought leader in our family, actually, is our two-year old. But, I came to the valley I guess in 1989. And, I also initially worked for Apple in their manufacturing plant. I wasn't turning a screwdriver or anything like that, but in the engineering team that was attached to the Macintosh factory. And, wound up doing some design of Power Books. After that, went to Catapult where I met Joe, worked with Joe there. And then had a detour to Philips Consumer Electronic's and Philips Semiconductors before winding up starting Danger with Andy and Joe. Great. Well, we're starting to kind of see an evolution here. We all kind of came to the valley in the late '80s, early '90s.

And through these various companies we worked with, we've built relationships with each other. I came in '88, worked for Apple, and that's where I first met Joe. And we worked together on some of back then was the first WISP-based Macintoshes. And, through various startup companies after Apple I went to Gentle Magic. After Gentle Magic, WebTV. And actually at Gentle Magic is where I met Matt's brother and built a friendship with Matt as well. So, very much kind of a network effect took place here. And it all kind of converged on this little company Danger, which was started in January of 2000.