

# Italian Guest Workers Listening to their Radios at the Volkswagen Plant in Wolfsburg (1962)

## Abstract

Italian guest workers at the VW plant in Wolfsburg are delighted to be able to listen to their music anywhere by means of battery-powered transistor radios. As early as 1961, West German radio stations were recording half-hour programs on a weekly basis for Germany's 120,000 Italian migrants. The four workers epitomize the vision of a dynamic, growth-oriented, technologically advanced, and border-crossing consumer society that included guest workers. Portable radios, like Vespas and Volkswagen cars, became emblems of a society on the move.

Today, real-time video broadcasting on handheld mobile devices enables communication across borders—provided that one has high-speed Internet access.

## Source



Source: Photo by Benno Wundshammer. Date: Spring 1962. Place: Wolfsburg. Inventar-Nr.: Wu 62/1/5-2.

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