

## 19-B Moving with Machines

More than a hundred years ago, two engineers came up with the same idea. They decided to put an engine on a vehicle. The engineers were Karl Benz and Gottlieb Daimler. Both lived in Germany, but they worked independently of one another. They developed some of the world's first motor-powered vehicles. Within forty years of their work, horse-drawn carriages were becoming a thing of the past. They were gradually being replaced with automobiles.

In 1885, Daimler attached a half-horsepower engine to a wooden bicycle. Although the ride was bumpy, this early motorcycle moved under its own power. In 1886, Daimler made what became known as a "horseless carriage." He equipped a horse carriage with an engine. Carrying four adults, the Daimler car could travel about 10 miles an hour (16 kilometers per hour). Daimler formed an auto manufacturing company in 1890. In 1901, he introduced the Mercedes automobile.

Meanwhile in 1878, Benz had begun his auto-making career by mounting a gasoline engine on a large tricycle. Benz successfully demonstrated his vehicle on the streets of Mannheim, Germany, in 1885. Later he improved on this design and built a four-wheeled vehicle. By 1891, people were buying factory-built Benz motorcars.

In 1926, Daimler and Benz joined forces. They merged their companies to form Daimler-Benz & Company.