*NCSBN Historical Timeline:* **1986–1994: Forging New Frontiers with Computerized Adaptive Testing (CAT) Video Transcript**
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Woman: The evolving healthcare environment and nursing practice influenced the work of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, spurring innovations that would forever change nursing and nursing regulation.

Donna: To move forward with computer-adaptive testing, that was a very, very difficult decision for the board to make. It turned out, in the long run, to be a learning experience.

Woman: A committee was created to dedicate focus on special projects, such as the integration of computer technology and adaptive testing.

Woman: NCSBN began exploring computerized-adaptive testing or CAT for use on its national nursing licensure examination.

Jennifer: It was a very long process. There were so many questions and answers that had to take place before we got there, and to see it culminate was just very, very rewarding.

Anthony: It started with the convening of a committee in 1986 called the Committee for Special Projects. And their job was to kind of do the feasibility study overseas, staff work, work with member boards to make sure they were informed and brought up to date.

Woman: In 1988, NCSBN greenlit the development of CAT for the NCLEX-RN exam.

Renatta: Trying to envision what would computer testing look like, and I can remember people saying, "Why do we have to be first ones to jump off the cliff? You know, let somebody else try this."

Woman: Never afraid of a challenge, NCSBN soon began research and development.

Anthony: The next set of research that really included more of the psychometric look, did the CAT measure as well as paper and pencil or not?

Woman: The full capabilities of CAT were put to the test in an effort to design a comprehensive

licensure examination that effectively and fairly measured the competency of entry-level nursing candidates.

Anthony: The advantages of CAT for the organization were gonna be huge if it were to work. But, really, it was such an early technology of this time that there was a bunch of research that we needed to accomplish, to make sure that it was a feasible modality for national level nursing licensure exam.

Woman: In 1991, NCSBN's delegates voted on the implementation of CAT for the NCLEX-RN. With that vote, NCSBN became the first healthcare profession to use CAT for national licensure testing.

Donna: This was the most controversial, the most talked about thing. It was just a moment in our history that I just will never forget.

Woman: CAT made the NCLEX-RN more accessible, convenient, and for the first time, interactive. More importantly, because the exam is unique to each candidate, the NCLEX-RN enhanced security and remained a reliable means for determining entry-level nursing competency.

Corrine: It was a giant step forward and a true finest hour for the profession and for work on nursing.

Rosa: On April 1st, 1994 at 8 A.M., we inaugurated the first national computerized-adaptive testing.

Woman: CAT was a pivotal milestone for NCSBN. It took several years to come to fruition with the organization pushed forward, embracing new technology, and ultimately demonstrating its commitment to innovation and the future of nursing and nursing regulation.