This brief history of Spyderco highlights its product development. Continued improvement and refinement have contributed to growth.

- 1976 Spyderco a new business in Redding, California. Primary function: marketing of new tools.
- 1977 Spyderco marketing emphasis: cutlery and related items.
- 1978 Company relocated to Golden, Colorado. Introduction of Tri-Angle Sharpmaker. Emphasis on quality, performance and versatility.
- 1980 Introduction of ceramic files for gunsmiths and machinists.
- Introduction of ceramic whetstone (2" x 8")

 CLIPIT "Worker" model introduced. The first production "one hand opener" and first folding knife to incorporate a clothing clip. It was also the first production knife to offer both right and left hand models.
- 1982 Introduction of CLIPIT "Mariner" model with SpyderEdge serrations. The world's first successful serrated folding knife.
 Introduction of the "Double Stuff" pocket ceramic.
- 1983 Introduction of CLIPIT "Hunter" and "Executive" models. The Executive model was originally labeled the "Clippette".
 Introduction of the first five models of the "Pro Culinaire" line of kitchen knives; (originally called "Sharps").
- Introduction of CLIPIT "Standard" model (originally dubbed the "Economy"). Featured a unique stamped clip design that was later used by many other knife manufacturers.

 Introduction of CLIPIT "Police Model". A classic design in folding lockbacks.
- 1985 Introduction of additional "Pro Culinaire" kitchen knife designs.
- 1987 CLIPIT Harpy and CoPilot designs unveiled. Special designs for specialty markets.
- 1988 Spyderco earns Blade Magazine "Manufacturers Quality" Award.
- "Scuba Probe" offers new concept in diving tools.
 Spyderco claims Blade Magazine "Design Award" for imported manufacture. Lightweight, aluminum handle "Police Model" increases the cutting/power ratio.
- Lightweight Zytel-handled Endura and Delica models provide new features to the lightweight folding knife market.
 Spyderco's Endura model CLIPIT claims Blade Magazine "Overall knife of the year" award.
 Spyderco's "Custom Knife designer" series begins with Robert Terzuola designed CLIPIT. Proven CLIPIT features as seen through the eyes of a master knifemaker.
 Introduction of "Pro-File" ceramic sharpeners.
- Introduction of Zytel-handled Rescue model in three colors. The rescue tool of the future. Introduction of LadyBugs in six colors. Big performance in a bug sized package. Introduction of the "Mini-Scuba-Probe", a smaller version of the original "Scuba-Probe".
 - * It is interesting to note that the first CLIPIT prototype was exhibited at the 1981 SHOT Show in New Orleans and went unnoticed.