What is P2P?
(Peer to Peer Networks)

Peer-to-peer; Network or data communications in which no dedicated server is involved.

Equal peer nodes that simultaneously function as both "clients" and "servers" to the other nodes on the network.

http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/peer-to-peer
What is P2P used for?

(Instant Messaging, Communications, Filesharing)

It can be used for many different things such as Instant Messaging, Communications and also Filesharing.
Early Developments
(Napster)

Napster was created by Sean Parker and co-founder Shawn Fanning in 1999. A different way to distribute MP3 files. Instead of storing the songs on a central computer, the songs live on users' machines.
How it Worked
(Napster)

Through a central index server, Napster connected thousands of computers together. The main purpose of this central server was to keep an index of all the Napster users currently online and connect them to each other. It did not contain any of the MP3 files but it eventually lead to its downfall.
Shutting Down Napster
(Napster & the RIAA)

Starting in 2000, the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) spearheaded a series of lawsuits aimed at shutting down Fanning and Co that they were facilitating the free trade of “illicit” music files amounted to a violation of copyright law.
Napster and its founder held the promise of everything the new medium of the Internet encompassed: youth, radical change and the free exchange of information. But youthful exuberance would soon give way to reality as the music industry placed a bull’s-eye squarely on Napster.

They had around 26.4 million unique users spending a collective 6.3 billion minutes on the service that month with over 2.79 billion files traded over its peak month of February 2001.
Future of File Sharing
(The Development of the P2P Network)

It was the first decentralized peer-to-peer network of its kind and the gnutella network is a fully distributed alternative to such semi-centralized systems as Napster.

Gnutella works all the time. As long as you can get to at least one other machine running Gnutella software, you are able to query the network.
P2P Client Software
(Limewire, Morpheus, Torrents etc.)

The word gnutella today refers not to any one project or piece of software, but to the open protocol used by the various clients.

A whole new development of filesharing services that use P2P networks allowing people multiple options to share music, files, programs, etc.
Torrents (BitTorrent, Isohunt, The Pirate Bay)

Torrents work by downloading small bits of files from many different web sources at the same time.

Torrent sharing is about "swarming and tracking", where users download many small bits from many different sources at once.
The Pirate Bay
(Current Future of P2P)

The Pirate Bay is a website providing torrent files and magnet links to facilitate peer-to-peer file sharing using the BitTorrent protocol. It was founded in Sweden in 2003.

The Pirate Bay was established in November 2001 by the Swedish anti-copyright organization Piratbyrån (The Piracy Bureau) first run by Gottfrid Svartholm and Fredrik Neij.
Criminalize P2P
(Hollywood)

"The industries also are pushing to portray P2P networks as dens of terrorists, child pornographers and criminals"

- Xeni Jardin (Wired.com)
Criminalize P2P
(P2P is Illegal)

The Pirate Act 2004
“P2P companies are trying to blackmail the entertainment industries into accepting their networks as a distribution channel and source of revenue.”

Bill proposed to allow the Justice Department to pursue civil cases against file sharers, again making it easier for law enforcement to punish people trading copyright music over peer-to-peer networks.
Six Strikes Law
(To Educate the Casual Pirate)

“This system is not designed to produce lawsuits—it’s designed to produce education.”

- Ron Wheeler, a senior VP at Fox Broadcasting Feb. 25

Legalize P2P
(Ascap for the P2P era.)

They are finding that there are other ways around P2P making money for both the producers but keeping files open to the public and free.
P2P is Here to Stay

“Like it or not file sharing is likely to (continue) on a massive scale no matter how many suits are brought and what the fine print of copyright or criminal law says,”

- Adam Eisgrau (P2P United Executive Director)